

The New York Times

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Monday, October 22, 2012



Lebanese protesters are enveloped in tear gas as they pull a barbed-wire barrier during clashes after the funeral of Brig. Gen. Wissam al-Hassan who was assassinated on Friday by a car bomb in Beirut, Lebanon, Sunday Oct. 21, 2012. Lebanese soldiers fired guns and tear gas to push back hundreds of protesters who broke through a police cordon and tried to storm the government headquarters in Beirut. The enraged crowd came from the funeral of a top Lebanese intelligence official assassinated in a massive car bombing.

(AP Photo/Hussein Malla) Page 8



Anuba_10DAY

Pope canonizes 7 saints; 2 with New York ties



The tapestry of Mother Marianne Cope hangs from St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican as Pope Benedict XVI celebrates a canonization ceremony, Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012. Mother Marianne was declared a saint by the pontiff along with six others during the ceremony.

(AP Photo/Andrew Medichini)

RACHEL DONADIO © 2012 New York Times VATICAN CITY - Tens of thousands of faithful, some

wearing feathered headdresses and beads, others in colorful Hawaiian shirts and leis, turned out Sunday as Pope Benedict XVI canonized seven saints, including the first Native American and a 19th-century nun who tended to lepers on Hawaii.

Cheers rose from the crowd when the pope named Kateri Tekakwitha, known as "Lily of the Mohawks" and beloved by Native Americans; and Sister Mari-

anne Cope, a Germanborn nun who was raised in Utica, N.Y., before moving to Hawaii. But the loudest cheers were for Saint Pedro Calungsod, a 17th-century Filipino martyr, from a large contingent of Italy's Filipino community that came out to celebrate.

The canonization Mass comes amid a meeting of bishops aimed at shoring up religious belief worldwide, and several of the saints were missionaries.

Benedict prayed that "the witness of the new saints" would "speak today to the whole church." "May their intercession strengthen and sustain her in her mission to proclaim the Gospel to the whole world," he added.

Kateri was born in Auriesville, N.Y., about 40 miles west of Albany, to an Algonquin mother and father who was Mohawk. She was baptized by French Jesuits at age 20 after losing her parents in a smallpox epidemic. After being persecuted by some of her contemporaries for her faith, she fled to an Indian settlement in what is now Canada, where she died at age 24.

"Kateri impresses us by the action of grace in her life in spite of the absence of external help and by the courage of her vocation, so unusual in her culture," Benedict said, as he sat on a golden throne wearing

a cream-colored mantle with golden stripes and a miter with red trim.

"May her example help us to live where we are, loving Jesus without denying who we are," he said. "Saint Kateri, protectress of Canada and the first Native American saint, we entrust you to the renewal of the faith in the first nations and in all of North America."

Last year, Benedict confirmed that an 11-year-

mer mother superior of the Third Order Regular of Saint Francis in Syracuse, N.Y., who moved to the island of Molokai in 1883 to tend to those with Hansen's disease, or leprosy. There, she worked with Father Damien De Veuster, a Belgian priest who was canonized in 2009. Benedict called Saint Marianne, who died in 1913, "a shining and energetic example of the best of the tradition of Catholic nursing



The Rev. Brian Graebe places flowers on a statue of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012, at Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Roman Catholic Church in Lagrangeville, N.Y. Pope Benedict XVI canonized seven people, Kateri Tekakwitha, Maria del Carmen, Pedro Calungsod, Jacques Berthieu, Giovanni Battista Piamarta, Mother Marianne Cope, and Anna Shaeffer.

(AP Photo/Poughkeepsie Journal, Karl Rabe)

old Native American boy from Washington state had been miraculously cured from a flesh-eating bacteria after his parents prayed intervention through Kateri in 2006 – the second miracle needed to confirm sainthood. Some Native Americans have said that canonizing Kateri is an implicit offense to Native American traditions, but Eleanor Smith, a youthful 80, from Albuquerque, did not agree."It's a combination of your Catholic and your native traditions blending together," said Smith, who is from Mississippi Choctaw and Navajo heritage. "We all believe in the same creator. God, creator, Father Sky – it's all the same."

Others came to honor Saint Marianne Cope, a for-

sisters and of the spirit of her beloved Saint Francis."

Kathleen Ford, 67, came with a group from the Diocese of Syracuse.

"You can relate to her. She was a forerunner in health care," Ford said as she stood in a group wearing white kerchiefs that read, "Sisters of Saint Francis. Beloved lover of outcasts."

The Vatican confirmed that a woman from Syracuse was cured from complications of pancreatitis in 2005 after praying to Mother Marianne, the second miracle needed to assure the nun's sainthood.

Yvonne Pascua, 65, said she had come to Rome from Kapaa on the island of Kaua'i for the canonizations of both Saint Marianne and Saint Damien.





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Obama, Romney prepare for foreign policy debate

STEVEN R. HURST **Associated Press** WASHINGTON (AP)

President Barack Obama and Republican rival Mitt Romney were closeted with advisers preparing for Monday's third and fipresidential debate and fashioning strategy on the chessboard of battle-

Obama was preparina for the debate at Camp David, the presidential retreat in Maryland's Catoctin Mountains He arrived there with top advisers on Friday. Romney was spending the weekend in Florida, continuing intensive debate preparation that has consumed large amounts of his

after the election. White House National Security Council spokesman Tommy Vietor, however, said that the Obama administration had repeatedly expressed its willingness for such talks. Romney on Sunday refused to say if he would be open to one-on-one talks with Iran if elected. He was asked about Iran while officiating a coin toss at a flag football game on a Florida beach between reporters and his senior campaign aides. Romney, who was taking a break from debate preparations, also declined to say how he was feeling

or a new poll showing a close race.

Iran's economy is sufferina miahtily under a series of international sanctions aimed at convincing the Islamic Republic to stop uranium enrichment, a precursor to creating a nuclear weapon. Obama has said if diplomacy and sanctions fail, he was ready to use military action. So has Romney, although he has said U.S. threats should be more robust.

Obama had ranked well with the public on his handling of international issues

about the Monday debate and in fighting terrorism, especially after the daring U.S. raid that killed Osama bin Laden. Romney's team has focused on Libva, following reports that Obama's administration could have known early on that militants, not protesters angry over a film produced in the U.S. that ridiculed Islam. launched the attack that killed the U.S. ambassador there. Within 24 hours of the attack, the CIA station chief in Libya told Washington about eyewitness reports that the attack was carried out by militants, officials told The Associated Press.



Republican presidential candidate, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney arrives on the beach to watch a flag football game between reporters that cover Romney, and Romney staff on Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012 in Delray Beach, Fla. Romney took a short break from debate preparations to do the coin toss, and watch the first play of the game.

(AP Photo/ Evan Vucci)

ground states that will decide the deadlocked race for the White House.

The presidency is decided in state-by-state contests, not by a national popular vote. Forty-one of the 50 states are essentially already decided, and the candidates have taken the fight to the remaining nine battleground states, including critical Ohio and Florida. The 90-minute foreign policy debate in Boca Raton, Florida, falls 15 days before the Nov. 6 election and represents the candidates' last chance to directly confront one another before an audience of millions of Americans watching the televised face-off.

time in recent weeks.

While the economy has been the dominant theme of the election, foreign policy has attracted renewed media attention in the aftermath of last month's attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, that killed four Americans, including U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens.

And over the weekend reports flashed around Washington of developments in the administration's efforts to end Iran's suspected drive to build a nuclear weapon. The White House denied a New York Times report that there was an agreement in principle for bilateral talks with Tehran





Police chief: US spa shooting suspect shot self

DINESH RAMDE Associated Press BROOKFIELD, Wisconsin (AP)

 A man police suspected of killing three people and wounding four others by opening fire at a day spa was found dead Sunday afternoon following a six-hour manhunt that locked down a shopping center, country club and hospital in suburban Milwaukee.

Authorities said they believe the shooting was related to a domestic dispute. The man they identified as the suspect, Radcliffe Franklin Haughton, 45, of Brown Deer, Wisconsin, had a restraining order against him. Brookfield Police Chief Dan Tushaus said Haughton died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound and was found in the spa. Authorities initially believed Haughton had fled and spent much of Sunday looking for him.

The shooting happened about 11 a.m. at the Azana Day Spa, a two-

story, (836-square-meter) building across from a major shopping mall in Brookfield, a middle-to-upper class community west of Milwaukee.

9,000-square-foot Hours later, a bomb squad descended on the building, and Tushaus said an improvised explosive device had been found inside. It was not clear whether it re-



Police stand with guns drawn at the entrance to Brookfield Square Mall across from the scene of a shooting at Azana Salon in Brookfield, Wis. on Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012. Police identified the shooting suspect as Radcliffe Franklin Haughton, 45, of Brown Deer, Wis. Brookfield Police Chief Dan Tushaus said Haughton died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound and was found in the spa. (AP Photo/Tom Lynn)

mained a threat.

Haughton's father, Radcliffe Haughton, Sr., spoke to a television station and The Associated Press shortly before police announced his son's death. In telephone interviews from Florida, he said he had last spoken to his son a few days ago, but didn't have any indication anything was wrong. He begged his son to turn himself in.

Police released little about Haughton other than a physical description and a photo.

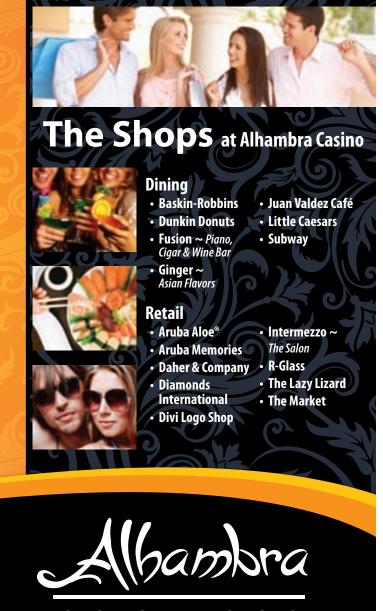
Online court records showed a temporary restraining order was issued against Haughton Oct. 8 in Milwaukee County Circuit Court because of a domestic abuse complaint. Haughton appeared in court Thursday, when a nocontact order was issued, and he was told to turn all his weapons over to the sheriff's department.

It was not clear who sought

the restraining order, but his father said he was married. A sea of ambulances and police vehicles collected at the scene shortly after the shooting. A witness, David Gosh of nearby West Allis, told the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel he was returning from duck hunting with his father and a friend when he saw a woman emerge from the spa, screaming, as she ran into traffic. The area is near an interstate highway and a busy commercial road

"She ran right out into the street and was pounding on cars," Gosh told the newspaper. He said that moments later, a man with a handgun ran out, and appeared to be chasing her, then went back inside. The mall, a country club adjacent to the spa and the hospital where survivors were taken were among the buildings locked down as police searched for Haughton.





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California:

Autopsy pending on body at shooting scene

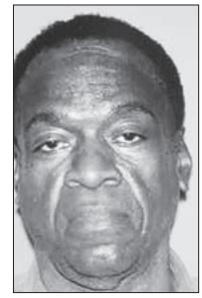
(AP) — A man found dead at the property where five members of a Southern California family were shot — two fatally — was wearing body armor, clutching a handgun and had a bullet hole in his head, authorities said Sunday.

The loaded handgun was a .38 caliber revolver registered to 55-year-old Desmond John Moses, who lived in a bungalow set ablaze before the deadly shooting spree at his neighbor's house in Inglewood, said Police Lt. James Madia. The body, burned beyond recognition, was found inside the bungalow late Saturday and an autopsy will determine whether it is Moses.

The dead man had "what appeared to be a gunshot wound to the head" and carried additional ammunition in his pockets, a police statement said. He was wearing "bullet-resistant body armor," the statement said.

The shooting rampage before dawn Saturday in Inglewood killed 33-yearold Filimon Lamas and his 4-year-old son. The father was shielding two of his children when he was shot, Inglewood Police Chief Mark Fronterotta said. Lamas' 28-year-old wife, Gloria Jiminez, was shot in both legs but managed to carry the wounded 4-year-old out of the house.

Paramedics found her col-



This photo provided by the Inglewood (Calif.) Police Dept. shows Desmond John Moses. Police say Moses, a masked gunman who set fire to his home before shooting five members of a Southern California family was in a dispute with the victims, Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012. Inglewood Police Chief Mark Fronterotta said a manhunt continues for 55-year-old Desmond John Moses after early Saturday's shooting rampage, which left a father and his 4-year-old son dead and three others wounded.

lapsed on the street. The child, who suffered a bullet wound to the head, died at a hospital.

"Their efforts were certainly heroic," the chief said. He called the shooting spree a horrific crime.

Investigators believe Moses set his own home ablaze before entering the family's home around 4 a.m. wearing a dark cap and a white painter's mask.

Authorities said he fired 10 times. In addition to the deaths of the father and child and injury to the mother, a 7-year-old girl was wounded in the chest and a 6-year-old boy suffered a bullet wound in the pelvis. An 8-year-old boy escaped injury.

The mother and daughter remained hospitalized in stable condition, Inglewood Police Lt. James Madia said. The 6-year-old boy was released.

Authorities announced late Saturday night that the charred body was found during a search of the badly burned bungalow, which took hours because it was packed with debris.

or pack rat," Madia said. He said police planned to continue looking for Moses until an autopsy can identify the body.

Investigators were still gathering information and the autopsy has not yet been scheduled, Lt. Cheryl Mac-Willie with the Los Angeles County coroner's office said Sunday.

Madia said Moses lived in the bungalow for 17 years, while the family lived in the front house for 8 years.

Fronterotta would not discuss the nature of the dispute, but the property owner told the Los Angeles



Dozens hurt in floor collapse at Fla. party

Associated Press TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) —

Authorities say more than 50 people were hurt when the floor collapsed during a party at an apartment building in Florida.

Police spokeswoman Anitra Highland tells the Tallahassee Democrat that no one died when the floor collapsed just after 1:20 a.m. Sunday. She described most of the injuries as broken bones and sprains.

floor's dropped more than 100 partygoers from the second floor to the first floor in the Seminole Grand Apartments' clubhouse.

A Florida A&M University student at the party says the collapse was "like riding a roller coaster with no seat belts." Highland says a dozen people were taken to hospitals with injuries that were not considered life-threatening.



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McGovern, 1972 democratic presidential nominee, dies at 90

DAVID E. ROSENBAUM © 2012 New York Times

George McGovern, the U.S. senator who won the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in 1972 as an opponent of the war in Vietnam and a champion of liberal causes, and who was then trounced by President Richard M. Nixon in the general election, died early Sunday in Sioux Falls, S.D. He was 90.

His death was announced in a statement by the family. He had been moved to hospice care in recent days after being treated for several health problems in the last year. He had a home in Mitchell, S.D., where he had spent his formative years. In a statement, President Barack Obama called Mc-Govern "a champion for peace" who was a "statesman of great conscience and conviction."

To the liberal Democratic faithful, McGovern remained a standard-bearer well into his old age, writing and lecturing even as his name was routinely invoked by conservatives as synonymous with what they

considered the failures of liberal politics.

He never retreated from those ideals, however, insisting on a strong, "prohis opposing not only what he called "the tragically mistaken American war in Vietnam" but also the U.S. invasions of Iraq and Af-

34-year-old former college history teacher and decorated bomber pilot in World War II. Elected to the Senate in 1962, McGovern left

Former Sen. George McGovern at a discussion of policy solutions in Iraq on Capitol Hill in Washington, Jan. 12, 2007. McGovern, who won the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in 1972 and who was then trounced by President Richard M. Nixon in the general election, died early Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012, in Sioux Falls, S.D. He was 90.

aressive" federal government to protect the vulnerable and expand opportunity economic while asserting that history would prove him correct in ahanistan.

A slender, soft-spoken minister's son newly elected to Congress - his father was a Republican – McGovern went to Washington as a

(Jamie Rose/The New York Times)

no special mark in his three terms, but he voted consistently in favor of civil rights and antipoverty bills, was instrumental in developing and expanding food stamp

and nutrition programs, and helped lead opposition to the Vietnam War in the Senate. That was the cause he took into the 1972 election, one of the most lopsided in U.S. history. Mc-Govern carried only Massachusetts and the District of Columbia and won just 17 electoral votes to Nixon's 520. The campaign was the backdrop to the burglary at the Democratic Party headquarters in the Watergate Hotel in Washington, and by the Nixon organization's shady fundraising practices and sabotage operations, later known as "dirty tricks," which were not disclosed until after the election. George Stanley McGovern was born on July 19, 1922, in a parsonage in Avon, S.D., a town of about 600 people where his father, Joseph, was the pastor of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. family moved to Mitchell, in southeastern South Dakota, when George was 6. He went to high school and college there, enrolling at Dakota Weslevan University in Mitchell in 1940.

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US NEWS

7 Monday, October 22, 2012



Golden Dawn presence rattles Queens residents

ALAN FEUER DANIELLA SILVA © 2012 New York Times

NEW YORK – It was news to arouse the indignation of many residents of Queens: Golden Dawn, the neo-Nazi group based in Athens, had established an office in Astoria – or so it seemed.

The evidence was elusive: Late last month, a professional website suddenly appeared, showing the party's swastikalike logo set against a dark Manhattan skyline and calling on the city's Greek diaspora to donate food and clothing to a charity drive to benefit struggling poor people in Greece. There were pictures on the site: One was of a group of men with their backs turned to the camera, wearing black T-shirts reading, in Greek, "Golden Dawn New York."

Although the site went down within days of its emergence – targeted, it was reported, by Anonymous, the hackers' group – it provoked sufficient out-

rage that local politicians, doing what they do, rallied at a news conference to condemn the right-wing party, and a grass-roots protest movement sprang up in an effort to oppose it. The problem was - and, indeed, still is – that almost nothing is known about the party's actual presence in the neighborhood. Does Golden Dawn really have an office in Astoria, the center of the city's Greek community? That is not clear. What are its goals? Also unclear. Is its membership significant or minimal? No one knows for sure.

As far back as two years ago, one local resident says, he saw a car in the neighborhood with a Golden Dawn bumper sticker.

"They've had people in New York for a while now," said the resident, George Davis, 34, a Greek-American financial adviser. "It's not like these guys woke up yesterday and decided to join."

The Golden Dawn sightings

became more frequent, and perceptible, over the summer when a few business owners in Astoria were approached by members of the group, asking for donations for the charity drive,

said Nicholas Levis, an activist with Occupy Astoria-LIC.

The men did not identify themselves at first, although they apparently returned days later with Golden Dawn T-shirts for those who had made contributions. When the business owners realized that the food and hand-me-downs they had given were destined for an ultranationalist party, some of them, Levis recalled, became upset.

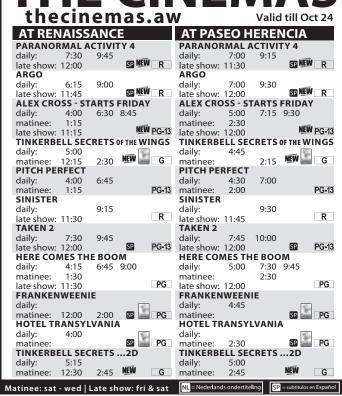
It was around that time that party members also placed charity-drive collection boxes at the Stathakion Cultural Center in Astoria with labels that read, "For Greeks Only." Christos Vournos, the first vice president of the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York, which is based at the center, said that he confronted the party members at the time and that they left the building – but only after a near-altercation.



Christos Skarlatos, who said a Golden Dawn member left some of the group's cards in the coffee shop where he works, at the shop in the Queens borough of New York, Oct. 3, 2012. Reported sightings in New York of Golden Dawn, the ultranationalist group based in Athens, have stirred indignation among Greek-American residents.

(Niko J. Kallianiotis/The New York Times)

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Chaos erupts at Lebanese intel chief's funeral

BEN HUBBARD ELIZABETH A. KENNEDY Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — The funeral for Lebanon's slain intelligence chief descended into chaos Sunday as soldiers fired tear gas at protesters who tried to storm the government palace, directing their rage at a leadership they consider puppets of a murderous Syrian regime.

The assassination of Brig. Gen. Wissam al-Hassan in a massive car bomb Friday threatens to shatter the fragile political balance in Lebanon, a country plagued by decades of strife — much of it linked to political and military domination by Damascus.

"The Sunni blood is boiling!" the crowd chanted as hundreds of people clashed with security forces. More than 100 protesters broke through a police cordon of concertina wire and metal gates, putting them within 50 yards (meters) of the entrance to the palace.

Authorities responded with tear gas and several officers fired machine guns and rifles in the air. One plain clothes guard pulled a pistol from his belt and fired over protesters' heads. Then a roar of automatic gunfire erupted, sending the protesters scattering for cover.

It was unclear if the guards fired live bullets or blanks, but

no protesters were reported injured by gunfire. Several were overcome by tear gas, and the government's media office said 15 guards were injured. The killing of al-Hassan has laid bare some of Leba-

non's most intractable is-

Many fear the crisis could lead to the kind of street protests and violence that have been the scourge of this Arab country of 4 million people for years, including a devastating 1975-1990 civil war and sectarian battles between

most loyal allies in Lebanon.

He also led the inquiry that implicated Syria and Hezbollah in the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri in 2005.

Al-Hassan was buried near Hariri in Beirut's cen-



Lebanese security forces fire their weapons during clashes after the funeral of Brig. Gen. Wissam al-Hassan who was assassinated on Friday by a car bomb in Beirut, Lebanon, Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012. Lebanese soldiers fired guns and tear gas to push back hundreds of protesters who broke through a police cordon and tried to storm the government headquarters in Beirut. The enraged crowd came from the funeral of a top Lebanese intelligence official assassinated in a massive car bombing.

(AP Photo/Hussein Malla)

sues: the country's dark history of sectarian divisions, its links to the powerful regime in Damascus and the role of Hezbollah, the Shiite militant group that dominates Lebanon's government and is Syria's closest ally.

Sunnis and Shiites in 2008. Al-Hassan, 47, was a powerful opponent of Syria in Lebanon.

He headed an investigation over the summer that led to the arrest of former Information Minister Michel Samaha, one of Syria's tral Martyrs Square, where thousands of people gathered earlier Sunday for the funeral. TV footage showed al-Hassan's wife Anna, his young sons Majd and Mazen, and his parents shedding tears near his coffin.

Egypt freezes assets of ex-PM Shafiq

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian authorities on Sunday said they are freezing the assets of presidential candidate and former prime minister Ahmed Shafiq and his daughters as part of the investigation into his wealth.

The decision by the Illicit Gains Authority is the latest legal move against

Shafiq, who held senior posts under deposed president Hosni Mubarak. He faces trial on corruption charges. Shafiq ran in Egypt's first presidential elections after Mubarak's ouster, narrowly losing to Muslim Brotherhood candidate Mohammed Morsi. Soon afterward he left the country

The authority said in a statement that investigations show Shafiq has real estate and financial assets including 12 villas, four chalets and two apartments. Shafiq has repeatedly denied allegations and said the case against him is politically motivated.

with his family.

Damascus car bomb kills 13

Associated Press

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) — A taxi packed with explosives blew up near a police station in the Syrian capital Sunday, killing 13 people as the U.N. envoy tasked with ending the country's civil war

JAMAL HALABY

U.N. envoy tasked with ending the country's civil war pushed his call for a ceasefire in talks with President Bashar Assad. The blast, which also wounded 29 people in the popular shopping district of Bab Touma, was overshadowed however by anti-Syria violence in neighboring Lebanon. Hundreds of angry Lebanese protesters tried to storm the government headquarters in the capital, Beirut, blaming Syria for the Friday assassination of a top Lebanese intelligence official and accusing the government of being far too close to the Assad regime. For much of the past 30 years, Lebanon has lived under Syrian military and po-

In Syria, two government officials speaking from the scene of the blast said the taxi exploded 50 meters (yards) from the main police station in Bab Touma, a neighborhood in Damascus' Old City. They insisted on anonymity because they were not allowed to brief the media. An Associated Press reporter at the site said blood stained the street and sidewalks, shards of glass littered the pavement from shattered shop windows, and the charred hulks of at least four cars littered the street.

litical domination.

Vegetable vendor Mohammad Hanbali, 27, said several people wounded in the blast were lying on the street when he rushed to help. □



Fighting flares for 5th day in Libyan town

ESAM MOHAMED PAUL SCHEMM Associated Press

WADI DINAR, Libya (AP)

 Pro-government militias battled fighters in a former stronghold of the late Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi on Sunday, the fifth straight day of clashes that have killed at least 30 people.

The fighting in Bani Walid, some 140 kilometers (90 miles) southeast of Tripoli, has overlapped with the anniversary of Gadhafi's capture and killing on Oct. 20, 2011. A year since his death brought an end to Libya's civil war, Bani Walid is the most significant city in the country to still resist the nation's new authorities.

A resident said Sunday by telephone that pro-government militias and fighters in the city were clashing on its outskirts. The resident, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals, said there were reports of new casualties, but that the fighting was less intense

than a day earlier.

In Tripoli, some two hundred protesters demonstrated in front of the parliament building to urge the end of the fighting, which they say is harming only civilians. The demonstration was dispersed by a massive show of force when army units pulled up and opened fire above the heads of the crowd with heavy weap-

Government forces near Bani Walid said there were no civilians in the conflict area, and they had helped evacuate hundreds of residents a day earlier.

The official LANA news agency said at least 22 pro-government militiamen were killed during clashes Saturday. Pro-government militiamen said most of the casualties came during an ambush by fighters in the besieged city.

The violence Saturday coincided with conflicting reports about whether security forces had arrested Gadhafi's former spokesman, Moussa Ibrahim, in he was even in Libya. Bani Walid.

The government said its forces had apprehended Ibrahim, but never produced evidence to support

The reports of Ibrahim's alleged arrested sparked brief celebrations in the Libyan capital. But in a reflection of the persistent lack

Government spokesmen

video — to back up their

claims.

could not be reached for further comment about Ibrahim. Violence flared periodically over the last year in Bani Walid. This round of fighting began when the pro-government Libya Shield militia besieaed the town, blamina residents for the death of a well-known anti-Gadhafi rebel. Negotiations to hand over the suspects in the killing had failed.

Pro-government fighters on the road outside of Bani Walid were transporting fleeing civilians and foreign workers from the fighting. Some of the fleeing workers said others were locked up in the city because of the heavy shelling.

In the Wadi Dinar area, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) outside of Bani Walid, one pro-government fighter said civilians in the city are making it harder for his troops to go after fighters loyal to Gadhafi.



Libyan militiamen acting as police detain a protester in front of the fence surrounding Tripoli's parliament Sunday Oct. 21 2012 . A few hundred protesters from the Libyan town of Bani Walid rallied in front of parliament in Tripoli against the weeks of siege of their hometown before soldiers fired heavy machine guns in the air to disperse the crowd.

(AP Photo/Paul Schemm)

its statement. Then an audio recording purportedly by Ibrahim surfaced on the Internet denying that he had been arrested or that

of confidence in the new authorities, Libyans quickly began to demand that the government produce evidence — photographs or

Spanish elections dominated by crisis, separatism

HAROLD HECKLE **JORGE GARMA Associated Press**

BILBAO, Spain (AP) — Voters in Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's northwestern home region of Galicia have given their support to his handling of the economy, but those in the turbulent Basque region handed a major victory to nationalist and separatist parties at the ballots Sunday.

Rajoy's Popular Party increased its absolute majority in Galicia, where austerity measures were introduced even before he took power as prime minister last year, with 41

seats in a legislature of 75.

In the Basque region, the Basque Nationalist Party — or PNV by its Spanish initials — took 27 seats while the separatist Bildu party claimed 21, giving pro-independence candidates their second-largest majority in 34 years of democracy.

The likely president of the Basque region will be PNV leader Inigo Urkullu, who called for calm in his victory speech and highlighted the need to restore his industrious and well-off region's economy.

"Resolving the financial crisis is a priority and the situation demands that we keep our feet firmly on the

ing financial crisis and how best to address the nation's separatist tensions were the main issues in the elections. Spain is in its second recession in three years and has near 25 percent unemployment. Since being voted to office in general elections in November, Rajoy has been forced to hike taxes, cut spending and introduce stinging labor reforms in a bid to persuade investors and international authorities that Spain can manage its finances without the need for a full-blown bailout. However, Spain's public finances have been overwhelmed

ground," Urkullu said. A deepen- by the cost of rescuing some of its banks and regional governments, many of which have suffered heavy losses in the property sector crash of 2008.

> Some observers believe Rajoy will seek a bailout soon, now that the elections are over.

> The government's austerity measures have led to protests across the country, some of which have ended in clashes between demonstrators and police. The financial crisis has also brought to the fore calls from some of Spain's 17 semiautonomous regions for greater independence.



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Israel's Netanyahu:

No limit on Jerusalem building

prime minister vowed on Sunday to continue building in east Jerusalem, de- ment "comes in the conspite objections from Palestinians who claim the territory as capital of their hoped-for state.

Benjamin Netanyahu spoke Sunday after the European Union's foreign policy chief criticized plans to build 800 new apartments and a military college on contested land, which the international community considers to be under Israeli occupation.

"We are not imposing any restrictions on construction in Jerusalem" Netanyahu told his Cabinet. "It is our capital."

A top aide to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas promptly accused Netanyahu of deliberately

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's destroying prospects for cess and the two-state sopeace.

The Israeli leader's com-

lution," Nabil Abu Rdeneh said.

The fate of Jerusalem lies



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu smiles during the weekly cabinet meeting in his Jerusalem office, Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012. Netanyahu is vowing to continue building in east Jerusalem, over the objection of Palestinians who claim the territory as capital of their hoped-for state.

(AP Photo/Lior Mizrahi, Pool)

text of the continuing destruction of the peace pro-

at the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Russian security forces kill 49 insurgents, officials say

ANDREW ROTH

© 2012 New York Times

MOSCOW - Russia's security services have killed 49 rebels and have captured dozens more in a counterterrorism offensive that officials called a "considerable" blow to the insurgency in the North Caucasus region, the Russian National Anti-Terrorism Committee announced Sunday.

President Vladimir V. Putin had urged the use of increasingly aggressive means to subdue the insurgency in the North Caucasus ahead of the 2014 Winter Olympics in the southern city Sochi, which is at the edge of the turbulent

"It's a matter of honor for the security services and special forces to do everything for these events to happen in a normal, celebratory atmosphere so that nothing darkens these events," Putin said at a meeting with military advisers and the head of Russia's Federal Security Service this week. Putin urged his subordinates to show "daring" to prevent any terrorist attacks, especially during the Sochi Olympics and the 2018 World Cup soccer tournament, which will have matches in several Russian cities.

A representative for the National Anti-Terrorism Committee told reporters in Moscow that the rebels killed were among the most "odious" insurgent leaders in the region, and were responsible for a campaign of terrorism that included bombings, the murder of police officers and attacks against schools in the Dagestan and Kabardino-Balkaria republics.





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Ex Venezuelan VP says he met with Fidel Castro

ANDREA RODRIGUEZ Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — HAVANA (AP) — Former Venezuelan Vice President Elias Jaua said Sunday that he met with aging revolutionary icon Fidel Castro for five hours and showed The Associated Press photos of the encounter, quashing persistent rumors that the former Cuban leader was on his deathbed or had suffered a massive stroke

Jaua also confirmed that the 86-year-old retired Cuban president personally accompanied him to the Hotel Nacional after their meeting Saturday, in which they talked about politics, history, culture and tourism. "He had the courtesy of bringing me to the hotel," Jaua said Sunday, adding that Castro looked "very well."

Jaua showed a photograph of himself seated in a minibus along with the former Cuban leader, Castro's wife, Dalia Soto del Valle, a hotel executive and several other people.

The photo shows Jaua and Castro smiling broadly, and the former Cuban leader is wearing a checked shirt and cowboy hat. The public appearance was Castro's first in months. A top Hotel Nacional executive told the AP earlier Sunday

how Castro had dropped off the Venezuelan guest, then stayed on to chat with hotel staff. "Fidel Castro was here yesterday, he brought a guest and spoke to workers and hotel leaders for 30 minutes," commercial director Yamila

told the AP earlier Sunday mercial director Yamila

Former Venezuelan Vice President Elias Jaua shows a picture of Cuba's leader Fidel Castro, third from left, at the Hotel Nacional in Havana Sunday Oct. 21, 2012. According to Jaua, the picture was taken Saturday Oct. 20, 2012 inside a van outside the hotel. A top executive of the hotel told the AP 86-year-old Fidel Castro appeared in public for the first time in months at the hotel Saturday challenging persistent rumors that the aging revolutionary is near death. Others in the picture being held by Jaua are, Antonio Martinez, director of the Hotel Nacional, center, Castro's wife, Dalia Soto del Valle, second from right, and Jaua at right. The two women at left are unidentified.

(AP Photo/Franklin Reyes)

Pro-independence party takes Curacao

KAREN ATTIAH Associated Press WILLEMSTAD, Curacao (AP)

— A party that calls for Curacao to be completely independent of the Netherlands has topped parliamentary voting on the Dutch Caribbean island, according to results released Saturday, but it will still hold only five of 21 seats in Parliament.

The Sovereign People party led by Helman Wiels received 23 percent of the votes — 19,716 — to top the Movement for the Future of Curacao, led by former Prime Minister Gerrit Schotte, which won 21 percent with 18,441 votes, and it also will have five seats.

Six other parties split the rest of the parliamentary vote on the island of about 140,000 people, so any government will have to be a coalition. That is likely to dampen Sovereign People's efforts to win full independence even if it can form a government.

The island was part of the Netherlands Antilles until October 2010, when it became a more autonomous "constituent country" of the Netherlands. The island's governor is the representative of the Dutch monarch, the people remain Dutch nationals and the Netherlands government oversees defense and foreign affairs.

Backers of Sovereign People believe that Curacao could stand alone now that its economy is largely dependent on offshore finance and tourism, much of it from nearby Venezuela. Fuster said. Fuster was not present, but hotel director Antonio Martinez is seated next to Castro in the photo shown by Jaua. Castro's health has been the subject of intense speculation for years, but the rumors gained force in recent days after he failed to publicly congratulate Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, a top ally, on his Oct. 7 electoral victory.



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Amid drug war, Mexico fights wave of common crime

MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN Associated Press MORELIA, Mexico (AP)

On a cool September evening, about a half hour after the sun set on the rose-colored Baroque cathedral of this colonial city in western Mexico, three men burst into a Coca-Cola distribution center on the edge of town.

The robbers pistol-whipped three security quards, grabbed thousands of pesos in cash and fled into a poor neighborhood of crumbling brick houses. Sirens screaming, state police arrived to find the white Nissan Sentra they believe was the getaway car being engulfed in flames.

"You can't even go out at night here," homemaker Yolanda Villa said, poking her head out the door of her home around the corner. "They beat you, kidnap you, rob you," her 9-year-old son Luis said, finishing her sentence.

In cities and towns across Mexico, a nearly six-year

offensive against drug cartels has been accompanied by a surge in common crime: assaults and robbercrime as a way to fund their clashes with each other, and with troops and federal police.

ber 2006, President Felipe Calderon ordered thousands of troops to Michoacan, his home state, with

Soldiers and federal officers still clash almost daily with heavily armed cartel aunmen. Kidnappings are frequent, and discoveries of dismembered, beheaded bodies are a regular occurrence throughout much of the state. Homicides rose 68 percent in the state between 2006 and 2011. They rose 35 percent nationwide

ing with at least two other

cartels, including the Zetas,

along the edges of Micho-

acan.

As for the street crime, state officials say they are making progress in Morelia through purges of corrupt and incompetent police officers and better management of the remaining police, and they say some crimes, including several types of robbery and assault, are decreasing. But Morelia residents say they don't feel safer.

Joe Maria Cazares Solorzano, president of the Morelia-based state commission on human rights, said people in the region have learned to expect the unexpected.

"Ten, 12 years ago, you never heard a siren, and never heard a helicopter. The police never flew over the city," Solorzano said. "Now it's a cause of constant anxiety, hearing ambulances, sirens, police and army helicopters flying over the city. So much has changed in terms of security, and it's very sad."

A similar wave of common crime has hit other Mexican cities. Nationwide, robberies increased 45 percent between 2005 and the start of 2012, with the number of bank robberies almost quadrupling, from 200 to 768.



Men stand with their hands on the wall after state police stopped to search them during a routine patrol in Morelia, Mexico. In cities and towns across Mexico, a nearly six-year offensive against drug cartels has been accompanied by a surge in common crime: assaults and robberies that grab no headlines but make life miserable for ordinary citizens.

ies that grab no headlines but make life miserable for ordinary citizens.

Some experts blame the drug war for distracting law-enforcement from pursuing common criminals. Others say drug cartels have turned to common

Some of the first effects were felt in Morelia, the once-sleepy capital of Michoacan state, where Mexico launched its war on drugs.

The clashes in Michoacan began when local traffickers who had worked with the Gulf cartel became disenchanted with the tactics of that cartel's brutal enforcement wing, the Zetas, and formed their own gang with the avowed intention of keeping the Zetas out. The state's Pacific coastline and rugged, green countryside are ideal for clandestine operations such as methamphetamine labs.

A war erupted between the new group, which called itself La Familia Michoacana, and the Zetas, military defectors known for exploiting areas they control through extortion, kidnapping, drug trafficking and other crimes.

Less than two weeks after taking office in Decem-

(AP Photo/Alexandre Meneghini)

orders to quash the violence

Hundreds were killed across the state in battles between traffickers and in government actions. In September 2006, gunmen threw five severed heads onto the dance floor of a bar in the city of Uruapan, a crime so ghastly it made international news.

Meanwhile, common crime began to increase, with reported robberies rising 35 percent between 2006 and 2011 in the jurisdiction that includes Morelia, an international tourist attraction once best known for its Spanish-language schools, lush green parks and immaculately preserved 16th-century architecture. Robberies appear to be on track to rise again this year. Nearly six years later, the military remains in Michoacan. Its operations have helped splinter La Familia into two dueling groups that themselves are fight-

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LOCAL

The Radisson Hosts a Local Community Appreciation Party

Palm Beach – Senior Sales prepared by the culinary Manager Lily Polsbroek welcomed guests to the Grand Caribbean Ballroom, on behalf of resort management. Lily who has been with the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa for the past seventeen years, served as party host, introducing Director of Operations Raymond Habibe and the Executive Chef Kien Fat Lie Kwie. Since the holiday season is around the corner guests got to sample the delicious Christmas menu,

team.

The elegant event, Lily explained, was designed to thank members of the local community for their support of the resort year-round, also soliciting their business for the upcoming party season.

Robert & Su Solo Banda show entertained the gathering while Elsa's Flower Shop decorated in collaboration with High Performance for lighting effects and illumination.



In her welcoming remarks Lily shared that the resort has recently undergone a \$35 million dollar renovation, and that the Grande



Dame of Palm beach offered 15 acres of lush gardens, 355 stylish and comfortable guest rooms and suites, besides award win-

Spa treatments and meals at Gilligan's Beach Restau-

The 2012 Christmas program, as introduced at the Appreciation Party embraces many features including Frosty the Snowman's Buffet, for just \$37, per person, for dinner featuring a great selection of holiday foods. Other options, at up to \$57.50 per person, for the Grand Noel Station to Station, are available by contacting Fransisca Van Esta Tjallingii, Marvinia Richardson and Raynold Semeleer at the resort. A fun and reasonable lunch option for \$40 per person and a spectacular Brunch package at \$42, are sure to be popular as combined with different bar and beverage packaaes.

Pictured here the party in the Grand Caribbean Ballroom.











ning restaurants, bars, and the unique Larimar Spa, where gift certificates may be purchased as holiday gifts.

A festive raffle at the end of the function awarded many gift certificates to party-goers for Sunset Grill brunches, Larimar







More winners at the Hyatt Casino!

tober, 2012) - Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort Casino & Spa (www.aruba.hyatt. com) with 3 happy jackpot winners this week.

Mrs. Joanne Lobosco who was a guest staying the the Hyatt hotel decided to visit the Hyatt casino to try her luck. After playing the 8 Quick Hit slot machine for just 4 minutes and spending only \$78 she hit the

PALM BEACH, ARUBA (Oc- jackpot of \$2370. She was extremely happy with her prize and her choice of re-

> Another winner this week was Mrs. Dianne Sleakoff who was also a tourist visiting the island of Aruba. Mrs. Sleakoff was playing the Triple Lucky Seven slot machine, and after 10 minutes playing it and \$200 spent she won the jack pot prize of \$2700.





Mr. Luigi Dinota was also a lucky winner this week. Mr. Dinota hit the jackpot progressive amount of \$5700 after playing the machine

for only 1 minute and after spending \$28 at the machine.

Hyatt casino wants to congratulate all the winners of this week. This was a vacation to remember for all these winner and they are sure to visit the Hyatt casino on their next trip to Aruba.

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card balance, get a list of all of Aruba Bank's ATMs and their locations, receive valuable tips, fill out Online Applications to apply for a savings account, as well as loan account or credit card account online.

Aruba Bank's Internet Savings allows you to open and manage your savings account online.

importantly most -- which will surely make many people happy - the Customer Service desk at the Camacuri Branch will also be open on Saturdays,

loan, check your credit with offices open from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

> You are welcome to stop by and perform all of your financial transactions, with the exception of teller services. These new services are completely free, simple to use and help you stay up to date on all your banking needs, with guaranteed security and maximum convenience. This is another way that Aruba Bank makes its slogan come to life.

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ADVERTISEMENT 15 Monday, October 22, 2012

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Most visitors don't have the opportunity to experience Aruba's cultural highlight of the year-Carnival (or, as we call it here, Carnaval). But now you can discover the colorful spirit of Aruba's Carnival every Thursday evening at the Carrubian Festival. Situated on the island's southern tip in the heart of San Nicolas where Caribbean and Aruban cultures meet, the Carubbian Festival brings Carnival to life with live Calypso and Soca music, a parade of glittery dancers showcasing many of our past Carnival's gorgeous costumes, festive brass bands, stilt walkers, handicrafts, and traditional homemade cuisine of the Caribbean region.

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The Casino at the Radisson awards winners with big jackpots

Palm Beach – Lady Luck is definitely a regular at The Casino at the Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa, where many lucky visitors have been walking away with major cash winnings. The first to hit it big was lager Thivotinsky, who wan

The first to hit it big was Igor Zhivotinsky, who won an impressive jackpot of \$1.136,81 playing the Lightening Stacked 7's slot machine.

Then, Agnes Mattis knew she was in for a cash windfall after hitting a Royal Flush on the Poker slots, netting her a cool \$ 1.022,50.

ting her a cool \$ 1.022,50. By far, the biggest winner was Mr. Destefano, who only recently won a whopping \$4.000 on a poker slot! Even those who aren't hitting jackpots are walking away with cash winnings. After having introduced its popular Mystery Jackpots, hundreds of people have









been surprised and delighted with their \$250 Mystery Jackpot prize, which can hit at any moment. All machines.

they had to do was play the slots with their Winners' Circle Card inserted in the machines. Photos show the happy winners at The Casino at the Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa.



SPURIS DE TODAY



Venus Williams of the U.S. smiles as she holds the trophy after winning the singles final of the Luxembourg Open against Romania's Monica Niculescu, in Luxembourg, Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012.

Associated Press

Williams wins Luxembourg Open title

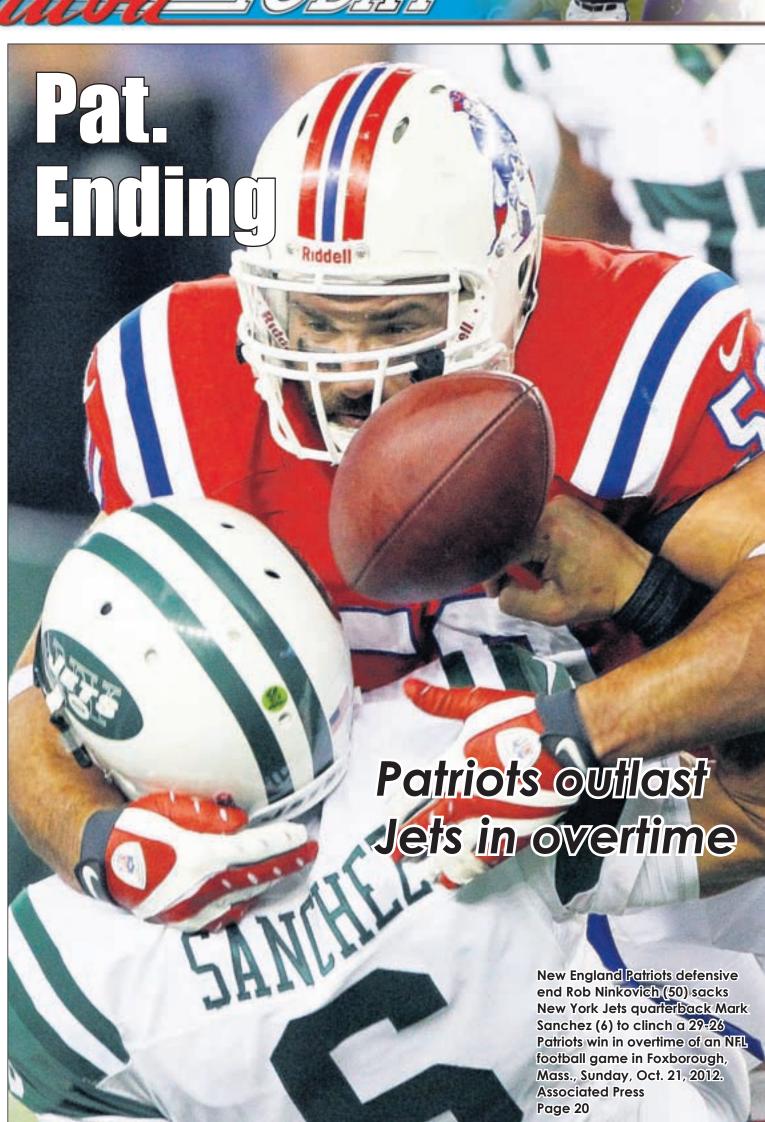
LUXEMBOURG (AP) — Venus Williams won her first WTA tournament in more than two years Sunday, beating Monica Niculescu of Romania 6-2, 6-3 to take the Luxembourg Open title. Slowed for two seasons by injuries and illness, Williams showed she still had the winning touch and played steady tennis while Niculescu proved error-prone as she sought her first career title.

At 32, Williams won her 44th singles title in a career that includes seven Grand Slams.

For Niculescu, ranked No. 70, it was the second loss in the Luxembourg Open final in a row. Williams, now ranked No. 41, had not won a tournament since early 2010, when she took the titles in Dubai and Acapulco in short order.

Throughout the 1 hour, 22 minute match, Williams rarely looked in trouble, taking the early initiative and never letting go.

Continued on Page 20







Czech Republic's Tomas Berdych kisses the trophy after winning the ATP Stockholm Open tennis final against France's Jo-Wilfried Tsonga at the Royal Tennis Hall in Stockholm, Sweden, Sunday Oct. 21, 2012.

Associated Press

Berdych beats Tsonga in 3 sets to win in Stockholm

OLIVER GRASSMAN Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Tomas Berdych won his second ATP title this year by rallying to beat top-seeded Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the Stockholm Open final on Sunday.

The sixth-ranked Czech saved seven of nine breakpoint chances in the hardfought match to improve to 3-1 against Tsonga and add to his win in February in Montpellier, France. Berdych now has eight career titles.

For the first time in his career, the talented Czech has now won more than one title during a season.

"It feels pretty good ... this season has been really solid," Berdych said.

Berdych saved a break point to hold serve for 5-4 in the deciding set. In the following game, Tsonga then saved two match points by hitting an ace and a winner but ultimately lost on a double fault. "I just tried to stay positive until the end and tried to take points one by one," the Czech said.

"I'm happy to turn it (the match) around, it makes the win even more special," added the Czech, who is aiming to make it into next month's London Finals, after which he will be part of the team to take on Spain in the Davis Cup final. "To qualify into London is special, this is the one where you have to play well all year to get into the tournament. I'm hoping to make it for the third year in

a row."

In the first set, thanks to some patient baseline play, Tsonga forced the hardhitting Berdych into making mistakes and eventually broke the Czech to 3-2 on his fourth break point.

With some powerful serving and aggressive play, Tsonga went on to clinch the opening set 6-4.

He proceeded to break Berdych in the opening service game of the second set, and then held his serve until 4-3. Berdych gradually found his groove and finally broke back to 4-4, then reeled off the next two games to take the set.

In a tight deciding set, both players fought off several break points, with both managing to hold serves until the tenth game, where Tsonga's serving finally let him down.

"I feel bad," said a disappointed Tsonga, the stronger player for a set and a half. "I think we played a great match and I had many opportunities. I did some wrong things, but I gave my best tennis and I lost, so I have nothing to regret."







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the best prices on all of our cuisines. Call: 586-448 Matt Kenseth wins, Keselowski keeps points lead

By JENNA FRYER **Associated Press** KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) —

The fast, smooth new surface at Kansas Speedway had the potential to wreak havoc on the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.

The recent repave cluttered Sunday's race with a record 14 cautions — a season high in the Sprint Cup Series — and contributed to issues that affected at least four title contenders. But the standings looked much the same when Matt Kenseth took the checkered flag in a battered Ford that he banged hard into the wall midway through the race.

Kenseth still managed to drive it to his second victory in three races, while Brad Keselowski dodged accident after accident to hang onto his seven-point lead over Jimmie Johnson in the standings with four races remaining in the

"I was thinking, 'Man, this has to be entertaining for everybody to watch,' " Kenseth said. "There was a lot of wild stuff happening." That was an understatement Sunday, when the longest green-flag run was 35 laps early in the race. Some of the cautions were caused by tire problems, others were for single-car spins, including Chase drivers Johnson, Tony Stewart and Greg Biffle.

Danica Patrick wrecked herself when she intentionally wrecked Landon Cassill.

"You know, everybody has been asking all season long where the cautions have been," Keselowski said. "Well, they flew to Kansas and they've been hang-

ing out here because there was caution after caution." Biffle's spin ended his day with a hard crash into the wall. "I lost it, man. It got away from me off of four and we wrecked it," said Biffle, who dropped five spots in the standings to 11th. "I had no indication, no little wiggle, no sideways. It just got away from me and it killed our day." Johnson, who led 44 laps early, was far luckier.

He had pitted from the lead and was back in traffic when a caution came out, and he spun by himself shortly after the restart. He, too, hit the wall on his spin, but crew chief Chad Knaus called him to pit road to get a look at the car instead of conceding laps by going to the garage for repairs.

Knaus then methodically dictated team orders, as Johnson stopped on pit road at least a half-dozen times for repairs over two caution periods.

"That looks good, man. They did a much better job than I thought they would," he told Johnson as he drove away. "There's really nothing wrong with that thing."

Even Keselowski was surprised to see the heavily taped No. 48 back on the track when the race went green.

"I thought you said the 48 car wrecked?" he asked his crew. "He looks fine."

Team owner Rick Hendrick praised the team efforts during a stop in the media center during the race.

"I have never in my 30 years of racing seen anyone perform that kind of surgery and not lose a lap," Hendrick said.

In the end, Johnson sal-

vaged a ninth-place finish and was carefully inspecting his Chevrolet after the race 🗌

Matt Kenseth (17) crosses the finish line to win the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at Kansas Speedway in Kansas City. Kan., Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012. **Associated Press**







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Aruba TODAY

Williams wins Luxembourg Open title

LUXEMBOURG (AP) — Venus Williams won her first WTA tournament in more than two years Sunday, beating Monica Niculescu of Romania 6-2, 6-3 to take the Luxembourg Open title. Slowed for two seasons by injuries and illness, Williams showed she still had the winning touch and played steady tennis while Niculescu proved error-prone as she sought her first career title.

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For Niculescu, ranked No. 70, it was the second loss in the Luxembourg Open final in a row.

Williams, now ranked No. 41, had not won a tournament since early 2010, when she took the titles in Dubai and Acapulco in short order.

Throughout the 1 hour, 22 minute match, Williams

rarely looked in trouble, taking the early initiative and never letting go.

For a player who relies strongly on her serve, she was successful on only 63 percent of her first serves and didn't manage a single ace on the indoor hard-courts at CK Sportcenter Kockelsheuer. She was much more solid in her backcourt game as Niculescu looked hesitant from the start and failed to get any momentum going. The victory was a welcome turnaround for Williams, who has been struggling for several years from an autoimmune disease, which often left her fatigued and with painful joints.

She only started her season in March following a sevenmonth layoff because of the illness. And even then, it often was a slog through the summer in singles play, as she struggled to capture the style and power of old. In doubles, she did shine when she won a 13th Grand Slam doubles title at Wimbledon with sister Serena and then made it a repeat performance at the London Olympics a month

That form did not rub off in singles play though. She hasn't made it past the fourth round of a Grand Slam since the 2010 U.S. Open and among the fans speculation over potential retirement started making the rounds.

Williams would have none of it. The first signs of improvement came when she reached the semifinals in Cincinnati in the run-up to the U.S. Open despite some back problems.

She was ousted in the second round at the U.S. Open, but in her first tournament since, she finally ended her title drought.



Venus Williams of the U.S. smiles as she holds the trophy after winning the singles final of the Luxembourg Open against Romania's Monica Niculescu, in Luxembourg, Sunday, Oct. 21,

Associated Press

Lolo Jones off to strong start at bobsled trials

LAKE PLACID, New York (AP)

 Olympic hurdler Lolo Jones has posted an impressive start at the U.S. bobsled team selection races.

Seeking a pushathlete spot. Jones and pilot Jazmine Fenlator finished second in the opening night of selection races Saturday, their combined two-run time of 1 minute, 57.01 seconds just 0.05 seconds behind Jamie Greubel and Aja Evans (1:56.96). It was



Olympic hurdler Lolo Jones competes in the U.S. women's bobsled push championships on Friday, Oct. 5, 2012, in Lake Placid, N.Y. **Associated Press**

Jones' competitive bobsled debut.

Greubel and Evans set a track push record of 5.43 seconds. Evans won the national push championships earlier this season.

Nick Cunningham and Johnny Quinn (1:54.51) won the first series of two-man races, followed by Cory Butner and Jesse Beckom (1:54.58) and Codie Bascue and Nic Taylor (1:55.04).

Veteran pilots Steven Holcomb and Elana Meyers have byes onto the national team.

Luxembourg

Continue d from Page 17

For a player who relies strongly on her serve, she was successful on only 63 percent of her first serves and didn't manage a single ace on the indoor hard-courts at CK Sportcenter Kockelsheuer. She was much more solid in her backcourt game as Niculescu looked hesitant from the start and failed to get any momentum going. The victory was a welcome turnaround for Williams, who has been struggling for several years from an autoimmune disease, which often left her fatigued and with painful joints.

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That form did not rub off



Romania's Monica Niculescu reacts during the singles final of the Luxembourg Open against Venus Williams from the U.S., in Luxembourg, Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012. Williams won 6-2, 6-3. **Associated Press**

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Gainey wins Sea Island with course-record 60

DOUG FERGUSON AP Golf Writer

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Georgia (AP) — Tommy Gainey narrowly missed golf's magic number. He happily settled for a course-record 60 at Sea Island, and his first PGA Tour win Sunday in the McGladrey Classic.

Gainey became the fourth player this year to rally from at least seven shots behind in the final round to win on the PGA Tour. He made seven straight 3s on his way to a 29 on the back nine, and then had to wait more than two hours to see if Jim Furyk or anyone else could catch him.

No one came particularly close.

Tournament host and Ryder Cup captain Davis Love III drove into the water on the 16th and made double bogey. Furyk made a 12-foot par save on the 17th hole to stay one shot behind, but he pushed his approach well right on the 18th and made his first bogey in 56 holes.

"It's been a hard year for me and finally, we got it right," Gainey said.

Gainey, a 37-year-old from South Carolina with a homemade swing who is known as "Two Gloves" for wearing black gloves on each hand, joined a long list of unlikely winners this year. He was seven shots

behind going into the final round, and his 60 was nearly 9 1/2 shots better than the average score.

He wound up with a oneshot victory over David Toms, who closed with a 63. Toms also needed a birdie on the 18th hole to catch Gainey, but he pushed his drive well right into the bunker and had little chance of reaching the green.

"I was thinking about what kind of putt I was going to have before I ever hit the fairway," Toms said. "You get ahead of yourself and that's what happens."

Furyk wound up with a 69 to finish alone in third, a sour end to a season filled with bitter memories. This one won't sting as much as his bogey on the 16th hole of Olympic Club that cost him a shot at the U.S. Open, or the double bogey on the final hole at Firestone to lose the Bridgestone Invitational, or losing a 1-up lead against Sergio Garcia with two holes to play in the Ryder Cup. He had said at the start of the week that even if he were to win the Mc-Gladrey Classic, that's not what he would remember from his 2012 season.

This time, someone went out and beat him. And Furyk simply couldn't catch up. Furyk made only two bogeys all week.

"I think what I'm most dis-

appointed about is when it came down the stretch, hitting the ball pretty much as good as I can, I made really, really poor swings at 17 and 18 with a 7-iron and 8-iron," Furyk said. "So to play those two holes and not get one good look at it for birdie was disappointing." Gainey finished at 16-under 264 and earned \$720,000, along with a trip to Kapalua in January for the Tournament of Champions and a two-vear exemption on the PGA Tour. Love, trying to become the first Ryder Cup captain to win on the PGA Tour since Tom Watson in 1996, lost his hope on the back nine with a three-putt bogey on the 14th, a bunker shot that banged off the pin and spun out of the cup for a potential eagle on the 15th, and then his tee shot on the 16th that was left all the way and found water. He closed with a 71 and tied for fourth with Brendon de Jonge (65) and D.J. Trahan (69).

Gainey went birdie-birdie-eagle-birdie in the middle of the back nine to soar into the lead and bring 59 into the picture, a score only five players have managed in PGA Tour history. He had a 20-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole that didn't have enough speed to hold its line.



Tommy Gainey holds the trophy after winning the McGladrey Classic PGA Tour golf tournament, Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012, in St. Simons Island, Ga.

Associated Press

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Kenya's Wilson Chebet wins Amsterdam Marathon

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Wilson Chebet of Kenya defended his title at the Amsterdam Marathon on Sunday, setting a course record in the process.

Chebet broke away from the leading pack after 38 kilometers and won in a time of 2 hours, 5 minutes, 41 seconds. Ethiopian duo Bentayehu Assefa and Abrha Gebretsadik were second and third, both with a time of 2:06.22.

The previous course record of 2:05.44 was set by Getu Feleke in 2010.

Peter Kirui of Kenya had been viewed as Chebet's main rival before the race, but faded around the 35-kilometer mark.

The race had a record number of 38,000 entrants — with about 13,000 set to complete the full marathon — but the field included few top-level runners.

Michel Butter was the top Dutch finisher with a time of 2:09.57, improving his personal best by more than two minutes and qualifying for the world championships.

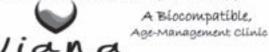




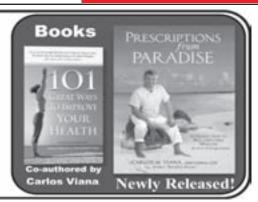
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Earlier puberty seen in boys, just like in girls

LINDSEY TANNER Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — When it comes to the birds and the bees, some parents may want to have that talk with their boys a little sooner than they expected.

Researchers have found signs of puberty in American boys up to two years earlier than previously reported — age 9 on average for blacks, 10 for whites and Hispanics. Other studies have suggested that girls, too, are entering puberty younger.

Why is this happening? Theories range from higher levels of obesity and inactivity to chemicals in food and water, all of which might interfere with normal hormone production. But those are just theories, and they remain unproven.

Doctors say earlier puberty is not necessarily cause for concern. And some experts question whether the trend is even real.

Dr. William Adelman, an adolescent medicine spe-

cialist in the Baltimore area, says the new research is the first to find early, strong physical evidence that boys are maturing earlier. But he added that the study involved testes measurements in more than 4,000 boys. Enlargement of testes is generally the earliest sign of puberty in boys. The study was published



study still isn't proof and said it raises a lot of questions.

Earlier research based on 20-year-old national data also suggested a trend toward early puberty in boys, but it was based on less rigorous information. The new online Saturday in Pediatrics to coincide with the American Academy of Pediatrics' national conference in New Orleans.

Dr. Neerav Desai, an adolescent medicine specialist at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, said he's seen a subtle trend toward slightly earlier puberty in boys. He said it's important for parents and doctors to be aware so they can help children emotionally prepare for the changes that come with puberty.

Doctors generally consider puberty early if it begins before age 8 in girls and before age 9 in boys.

Boys are more likely than girls to have an underlying physical cause for early puberty. But it's likely that most, if not all, of the boys in the study were free of any conditions that might explain the results, said lead author Marcia Herman-Giddens, a researcher at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Problems such as thyroid abnormalities and brain tumors have been linked to early puberty. But boys with chronic medical conditions or who were using medicines that could affect puberty were excluded from the research.

In girls, early puberty has been linked with increased chances for developing breast cancer, but whether it poses health risks for boys is uncertain. Some scientists think early testes development may increase the risk for testicular cancer, but a recent research analysis found no such link.

"If it's true that boys are starting puberty younger, it's not clear that means anything negative or has any implications for long-term," said Adelman, a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics' committee on adolescence.

For the new study, researchers recruited pediatricians in 41 states who participate in the academy's office-based research network. Doctors asked parents and boys aged 6 to 16 to take part during regular checkups. The visits took place between 2005 and 2010.

Half of the boys were white. The rest were almost evenly divided among blacks and Hispanics.

On average, white boys started puberty at age 10, a year and a half earlier than what has long been considered the normal average. For black boys, the average age of 9 was about two years earlier than in previous research. Among Hispanics, age 10 was similar to previous research that only involved Mexican-American boys. The new study included boys from other Hispanic backgrounds.

Testes enlargement was seen at age 6 in 9 percent of white boys, almost 20 percent of blacks and 7 percent of Hispanics.

Pubic hair growth, another early sign of puberty, started about a year after testes enlargement in all groups but still earlier than previously thought.

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Voice software helps study of rare Yosemite owls

TRACIE CONE
Associated Press
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK,
California (AP) — In the
bird world, they make endangered condors seem
almost commonplace.

The unique Great Gray Owls of Yosemite, left to evolve after glacial ice separated them from their plentiful Canadian brethren 30 millennia ago, are both a mystery and concern to the scientists charged with protecting them.

With fewer than 200 in existence in this small pocket of the Sierra Nevada, the slightest disturbances by humans can drive the extremely shy birds from their nests, disrupting sporadic mating cycles that ebb and flow annually depending upon food availability. So this summer, researchers found a way to abandon their traditional heavyhanded trapping, banding and the blasting of owl calls in favor of the kind of discrete, sophisticated technology used by spies and forensic scientists.

They hope to lessen human influence on this subspecies of owls prized for the potential insights their survival offers into habitat-specific evolution.

"Even if it takes only 15 minutes to trap a bird, it's traumatic for them in the long term," said Joe Medley, a PhD candidate in ecology at the University of California, Davis who perfected computer voice recognition software to track the largest of North America's owls. "With a population this small, we want to err on the side of caution in terms of the methods we use to get data."

Medley placed 40 datacompression digital audio



In this July 2012 photo released by the National Park Service, two juvenile Great Gray Owls are shown on a tree branch in Yosemite National Park.

Associated Press

recorders around the midelevation meadows typically favored by the owl known as Strix nebulosa Yosemitensis, hoping to identify them by their mating, feeding and territorial calls. He ended up with 50 terabytes of owl calls mixed with airplanes flying overhead, frogs croaking, coyotes yipping, bears growling and even the occasional crunch of fangs on pricy microphones — so much data it would have taken seven years to play back.

He then designed algorithms for an existing computer program that would search for the specific frequency and time intervals of the Great Gray Owls' low-pitched hoot "whoooooo-ooo-ooo." The program could discern males and females from juveniles, and even identify nesting females calling for food to help determine reproduction success. The results are still being analyzed.

"It's capable of searching a week's worth of data in an hour. What I was left with was owls and a host of other things that fell in the same bandwidth," Medley said.

Most of the world's Great

Gray Owls make their homes in northern hemisphere boreal forests, though a few live as far south as Oregon and Idaho. The giants with piercing yellow eyes and 5-foot wingspans have adapted so well to snow that they can dive face-first through up to a foot of it to catch the voles they hear creeping underneath. Their dishshaped faces work to amplify sound.

During the last ice age 30,000 years ago, a small population in and around what would become the glacially carved landscape of Yosemite was cut off from the others to evolve on their own in a warmer, less snowy climate.

Those owls, now numbering just a couple of hundred, are on California's endangered species list. The giant condors, once nearly extinct, number around 400 in California and the Southwest, and are on the federal endangered list.

"These (owls) exist nowhere else in the world, and where they do occur is a pretty amazing location," said Joshua Hull, a researcher with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and adjunct professor at UC Davis. "These are going in a different evolutionary direction than the others, and we don't know where that is right now."

Scientists from Yosem-

ite, the U.S. Forest Service and Fish and Wildlife, with funding from the Yosemite Conservancy, are working to gain a greater understanding of what those differences mean. So far, DNA studies have noted distinct genetic variations between the separated groups in addition to the different food sources and nesting patterns the southern birds have adapted. The birds have very subtle differences in color.

"That's important to know because if it's genetically different, we should try to keep it that way," Hull said. "You wouldn't want to bring in individuals from Oregon to supplement a unique population."







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High returns and a tax break in one investment

CONRAD DE AENLLE © 2012 New York Times

With payouts on conventional investments miserly and tax increases loomina on Jan. 1, financial advisers are talking up an alternative investment that offers much greater income plus tax breaks: master limited partnerships, or MLPs.

These are shares of businesses that, with a few exceptions, produce, transport or store oil or natural gas. A legacy of a 1986 tax code change intended to stimulate construction of domestic energy infrastructure, about 100 of the obscure instruments trade on the New York Stock Exchange or Nasdaq. They are not stocks, however, and, as the name suggests, they are not corporations. Being structured as partnerships allows the income that MLPs distribute to avoid the double taxation that corporate dividends suffer. Dividends are paid out of earnings on which a corporation has already been taxed and are taxable again to shareholders.

In a further break, tax on 80 percent of income is deferred until partnership shares are sold, said Darren



With master limited partnerships, which are shares of businesses in the energy sector, investors avoid the double taxation of dividends. (Wesley Bedrosian/The New York Times)

R. Schuringa, a principal of Yorkville Capital Management, a New York firm that invests in MLPs on behalf of clients. The other 20 percent is taxed as ordinary income, he said.

These tax advantages come at a price: bureaucratic hassles. Investors must fill out Internal Revenue Service Form 1065, Schedule K-1, to declare partnership income. But the favorable tax treatment can make the added paperwork worth-

The partnerships, on average, pay out 5 to 6 percent a year and produce capital appreciation of roughly the same amount, Jason Stevens, an energy analyst at Morningstar, estimated. And distributions tend to increase regularly.

"Most large MLPs have raised distributions for 20 years or more," Stevens said. "They boast about it. Over the whole space, you have a 5 percent growth rate. Not only are you getting yield, but it's going to grow over time."

Portfolios of these investment partnerships certainly have grown over time. During the last 10 turbulent years in the markets, the Alerian MLP index, considered the sector benchmark, generated an average annual total return of 167 percent, about twice that of the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index.

Future performance will depend on energy prices and the directions of interest and tax rates. Conditions for these investments may not be as favorable as they have been during the last decade, some financial advisers caution, and they encourage investors to focus on valuations, as with any other asset.

Stephen J. Massocca, chief investment officer for equity management at Wedbush Securities, said that while he considered himself "positively disposed" to own master limited partnerships, they were "cyclical in nature, so the entry point is a big determinant of how well you'll do."

As energy businesses, the partnerships tend to move in line with oil and gas prices, although the big annual payouts mitigate the swings to which commodity markets are

susceptible. Partnerships that produce oil or gas are most sensitive to commodity price movements, and some of them fell substantially when oil and gas prices collapsed in 2008.

Pipeline operators, which get paid no matter what prices do, tend to trade with less volatility. They are considered less risky by some analysts and tend to have lower shareholder distributions than production partnerships.

When it comes to risky propositions, tax planning is right up there these days. Rates could rise or fall depending on who wins Congress and the White House next month. Higher dividend tax rates scheduled to take effect in 2013 would make master limited partnerships more attractive, advisers say, while the introduction of lower rates, say as part of changes to the tax code, would diminish their appeal.

Stevens expressed feelings mixed about the prospects for such investments.





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Parceling out a nest egg, without emptying it

PAUL SULLIVAN © 2012 New York Times © 2012 New York Times News Service

Many people nearing the end of their working lives may have resigned themselves to cutting back in retirement. But for the affluent and the wealthy getting on in years, this is a time to figure out how much to spend so that they neither run out of money before they die nor leave too much to their children when they're gone. For the affluent, say, those who have accumulated a nest egg of \$500,000 to \$5 million, maybe even \$10 million, the calculation is stark: How much should they budget to spend each year when they could live another 20, 30, perhaps 40 vears?

For the outright wealthy, those with more than \$10 million but less than \$40 million, the question has a twist this year: How much of the \$5.12 million exemption on gift taxes expiring Dec. 31 can they exploit now while maintaining their lifestyle for the rest of their days?

They are nice calculations to have to make, but that does not make them any less stressful for the people making them.

"With the \$2, \$3, \$4 million folks, when they come in and want to know if they can live on that, it's a very serious conversation because there isn't a lot of room for error," said Joan Crain, senior director and wealth strategist for BNY Mellon Wealth Management. "Just in terms of coming up with a budget takes a lot of coaching. Many of them have never done that."

What clients often forget are fixed costs – homes,

cars, insurance – that must come down but take time to reduce, she said. Beyond that is her clients' skittish clays, said the way people thought about investing once they stopped working was also outdated.



The well-off must make an enviable set of retirement spending calculations, but those calculations are stressful nonetheless.

(Sarah Williamson/The New York Times)

approach to risk; putting all of their money in cash may make them feel safe, she said, but it probably will not support the lifestyle they want for decades. A generational disconnect is at work here: Most people plan to retire at 65, the retirement age established for Social Security in 1935, when the average life expectancy was 61. Today the average is over 80 for men and women with a college degree.

So the \$5.12 million gift exemption - created in a compromise between President Barack Obama and Congress in 2010 - presents the well-off with a decision laden with short- and longterm consequences. How much should they give heirs now – and thus avoid giving the government in estate taxes later - while maintaining their lifestyle over a probably longer but still unpredictable remaining life span?

Greg B. Davies, head of behavioral finance at Bar"The retirement industry has been telling us to dramatically reduce our risk at retirement because we don't have income anymore," Davies said. "That's true. But you also don't need all the assets at once. People who dial down their risk to zero, it can be extremely harmful."

His counsel to nervous retirees: Keep several years of expenses in cash and invest the rest of your money for the long term.

Davies challenged another bit of conventional wisdom: thinking that you will spend less in retirement – at least in the early years – than your preretirement salary.

your preretirement salary. "If you're healthy, to think that spending 75 percent of your income, now that you have all this free time, it's slightly ridiculous," he said. Most people, he said, will need slightly more at retirement, not less. But then how should people do the math to avoid dying broke? The answer depends as much on timing

as spending.

Mark A. Cortazzo, senior partner at Macro Consulting Group, tells clients who ask this question about three fictional brothers. Each one retired with \$1 million on Jan. 1 but three years apart – in 1997, 2000 and 2003. They all invested that \$1 million in the Vanguard 500 Index Investor Fund.

Between when they retired and Aug. 31, 2012, each brother withdrew \$5,000 a month. The brother who had been retired the longest had \$1.14 million on Aug. 31. The one who retired most recently had \$1.15 million left.

But the one in the middle, who began taking his monthly withdrawals in 2000, had only \$160,568. The reason? The stock market went down for the first three years he was retired, and then plummeted again in 2008. He had to sell more shares to get \$5,000 each month.

"Most clients say, 'I don't mind dying broke if I'm bouncing my last check to the undertaker," Cortazzo said. "But I don't want to run out at 80 if I'm going to live to 95," While it is unlikely that all of a retiree's money would be invested in one mutual fund, the illustration's simplicity makes a point that when you retire matters if you plan or need to withdraw the same amount each month regardless of what your investments are doing.



Mutts







6 Chix



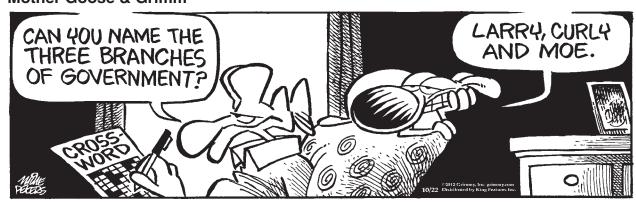
Blondie







Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues







Zits









Conceptis Sudoku

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			1	8		2		3
					9		8	

Difficulty Level *

4auba-TODAY

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer	1	7	3	8	4	9	6	2	5
	4	8	6	2	7	5	1	9	3
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day's	8	6	4	1	2	3	7	5	9
Satur	5	2	7	9	6	4	8	3	1
,	9	4	1	7	5	2	3	6	8
	7	3	2	6	9	8	5	1	4
	6	5	8	4	3	1	9	7	2

ACROSS

- Steal from
- 4 House of logs 9 Crusty wound covering
- 13 Vicinity 15 In the know
- 16 Christmas 17 Actress
- Tuesday __ 18 Puts in order of
- importance 19 Night twinkler
- 20 Messiest 22 Portable shelter
- 23 Moss type
- 24 Fib 26 Light color
- 29 Minor fight
- 34 Change slightly
- 35 Complain
- childishly
- 36 Sorority letter 37 Be concerned
- 38 "The only we have to fear
- is fear itself" 39
- __ one's way; grope 40 Huge bird that
- cannot fly __ for broke; betting it all
- 42 Penalized monetarily
- 43 Rule the roost 45 Bishops' hats
- 46 Pistol
- 47 __ and pepper 48 Skinny
- 51 Decide 56 Cartoon bear
- 57 Candid
- 58 __ off; falls asleep
- 60 Longfellow or Wordsworth
- 61 Dishwasher cvcle
- 62 Built-up grime
- 63 Ending for Paul or Ann
- 64 Beginning 65 Anti's vote

DOWN

1 Uncooked 2 Miners' finds

3 Signal to go to

__ tunnel syndrome: wrist

expectantly

6 Cause of woe

circulatory, e.g. 10 Just adorable

11 Actor Rachins

12 Ernie's buddy 14 New member

of a family

25 Rage 26 Walked the

27 Remembered

28 Play the guitar 29 Gleam

30 Picture card

31 "Goodnight,

32 Transparent

Texas mission

": folk song

floor

21 Equal

class

5 Look for

7 Annoys

8 Baby bird 9 Respiratory or Saturday's Puzzle Solved



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33 Grasps 48 Sort; variety 49 Owl's call 50 "By the Time

- 35 lota: smidgen
- 38 Back and forth 39 Appropriate
- 41 Wildebeest
- 42 Movie
- 44 Set on fire 45 Grocery store 47 Good judgment
- 52 Actress Moran 53 Light browns 54 Part of speech

to Phoenix"

55 Author Ferber 59 Heaven above

The best seats in the house, or ballpark

FRAN HAWTHORNE © 2012 New York Times

As a boy in Tennessee, F. Perkins Hixon said he "grew up listening to recordings of Maria Callas." So after he moved to New York, he subscribed to box seats at the Metropolitan Opera, gradually upgrading to the top class, a parterre center box of eight seats, at more than \$16,400 a season.

But love of opera was only part of the reason for subscribing, said Hixon, a senior managing director at Evercore Partners, an investment banking and strategic advisory firm. Even the ability to entertain far-flung friends was not the deciding factor.

The real issue was legroom. The chairs in a Met box, unlike the regular tiered seats, can be moved around.

"I'm 6-foot-7," Hixon explained. "An opera lasts three to four hours, so if you don't fit into your seat, it's not very comfortable."

Devoted fans – whether of "La Boheme" or baseball – typically want to attend as many performances or games as possible. If they are going to spend a few dozen hours at the same venue, and they can afford the cost, why not do it in luxury, with suede couches, wall-to-wall carpet, granite-topped counters, gourmet food and a private restroom?

The biggest problem may be too many good choices, especially for a person who has multiple interests or who lives in a city like New York, with an abundance of world-famous theater, ballet, music and sports offerings. Adding to the temptations, many sports franchises have recently renovated their arenas.

The Met or the Mets? The Yankees or the Giants? A seat right behind home plate, or a glassed-in suite shielded from the elements a few levels above?

"People who have reached this level of success have earned the ability to make their decision more based on passion and interest than on return on investment," said Clay

Speakman, president of Magnolia, a new lifestyle advisory program for the nearly 200 ultrawealthy members of the investment group, Tiger 21. The hierarchy of decision-making starts with the basic choice between sports and cultural events, assuming one has to choose. Next, fans must select which sport or culture: college football, professional football, baseball, basketball, hockey,

fans families and other groups have had Mets season tickotball, ets since Shea Stadium's opening day in 1964. And if the younger generation

thought, the side benefit of

"A lot of it is family bond-

ing, where it's the tradition

to go to the Sunday Giants

game," said Kathy Reilly,

founder and chief execu-

tive of Lifestylist Advisory, a

luxury-lifestyle advisory firm

in Manhattan. About 60

a sizable donation.

Fans in luxury boxes watch game two of the American League Championship Series between the New York Yankees and Detroit Tigers at Yankee Stadium in New York, Oct. 14, 2012. Personal passion, as well as the need to entertain certain clients can determine whether a business subscribes to the opera or has season tickets to the Yankees.

(Chang W. Lee/The New York Times)

opera, ballet, symphony, theater – you name it. Then, depending on the city, there may be a range of teams or performing arts companies. Finally come the particulars of seats, amenities, vantage point and schedule.

As Speakman asks his clients, "Is it more about special access, comfort, entertaining or getting the best view of the action?"

The answers depend largely on the reason for attending, whether for personal pleasure, family tradition, philanthropy or business networking.

With philanthropy, box seats may be an after-

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no longer wants to go? "Some of these families are so large now," Reilly said, "that the tickets can get passed to other branches." The motivations may overlap. For instance, top executives' tastes, not business needs, often dictate which tickets their companies obtain

"If you get somebody at the senior level who is interested, that interest gets contagious," said Paul M. Montrone, chief executive of Perspecta Trust, a trust company in New Hampshire.

Thus, Perspecta has two subscriptions to a parterre box at the Met (Montrone

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was president and chief executive of the opera company); a skybox along the first-base line at Fenway Park ("It's like America; it's a place I enjoy going with my family"); and season tickets to the Boston Symphony Orchestra (he is on the board). The firm sold its interest in a golf course in New Hampshire after the senior partners who were golf aficionados left.

Not that client preferences are completely ignored. The New York-based Water Quality Insurance Syndicate, which underwrites marine pollution liability insurance, pays about \$32,000 annually for four seats in a midrange Yankees suite behind home plate, in part because President Richard Hobbie is a fan but also because of "the popularity of the Yankees throughout the country," said Anthony J. Gerone, the vice president of underwriting.

"We have people that come over from London; they don't even know baseball, but they want to see the Yankees," he added.

Another factor in opting for the Yankees over the Giants and Jets was the convenience of a stadium in New York City. Some out-oftown clients "are intrigued" at the novelty of taking the D train to the Bronx, Gerone said – although the water syndicate usually hires a car service.

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Scientists link deep wells to deadly Spain quake

FRANK JORDANS JORGE SAINZ Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Farmers drilling ever deeper wells over decades to water their crops likely contributed to a deadly earthquake in southern Spain last year, a new study suggests. The findings may add to concerns about the effects of new energy extraction and waste disposal technologies.

Nine people died and nearly 300 were injured when an unusually shallow magnitude-5.1 quake hit the town of Lorca on May 11, 2011. It was the country's worst quake in more than 50 years, causing millions of euros in damage to a region with an already fragile economy.

Using satellite images, scientists from Canada, Italy and Spain found the quake ruptured a fault running near a basin that had been weakened by 50 years of groundwater extraction in the area.

During this period, the water table dropped by 274 yards as farmers bored ever deeper wells to help produce the fruit, vegetables and meat that are exported from Lorca to the rest of Europe. In other words, the industry that propped up the local



In this May 12, 2011 file photo, a police officer inspects damage caused by an earthquake the previous day in Lorca, Spain, Thursday, May 12, 2011.

Associated Press

economy in southern Spain may have undermined the very ground on which Lorca is built.

The researchers noted that even without the strain caused by water extraction, a quake would likely have occurred at some point.

But the extra stress of pumping vast amounts of water from a nearby aquifer may have been enough to trigger a quake at that particular time and place, said lead researcher Pablo J. Gonzalez of the University of Western Ontario, Canada.

Miguel de las Doblas Lavigne, a geologist with Spain's National Natural Science Museum who has worked on the same theory but was not involved in the study, said the Lorca quake was in the cards.

"This has been going on for years in the Mediterranean areas, all very famous for their agriculture and plastic greenhouses. They are just sucking all the water out of the aquifers, drying them out," he told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "From Lorca to (the regional capital of) Murcia you can find a very depleted water level."

De las Doblas said it was "no coincidence that all the aftershocks were located on the exact position of maximum depletion."

"The reason is clearly related to the farming, it's like a sponge you drain the water from; the weight of the rocks makes the terrain subside and any small variation near a very active fault like the Alhama de Murcia may be the straw that breaks

the camel*s back, which is what happened," he said. He said excess water extraction was common in Spain.

"Everybody digs their own well, they don't care about anything," he said. "I think in Lorca you may find that some 80 percent of wells are illegal."

Lorca town hall environment chief Melchor Morales said the problem dates back to the 1960s when the region opted to step up its agriculture production and when underground water was considered private property. A 1986 law has reduced the amount of well pumping, he said.

Not everyone agreed with the conclusion of the study, which was published online Sunday in Nature Geoscience.

"There have been earthquakes of similar intensity and similar damage caused in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries when there was no excess water extraction," said Jose Martinez Diez, a professor in geodynamics at Madrid's Complutense University who has also published a paper on the quake.

Still, it isn't the first time that earthquakes have been blamed on human activity, and scientists say the incident points to the need to investigate more closely how such quakes are triggered and how to prevent them.

The biggest man-made quakes are associated with the construction of large dams, which trap massive amounts of water that put heavy pressure on surrounding rock.

The 1967 Koynanagar earthquake in India, which killed more than 150 people, is one such case, said Marco Bohnhoff, a geologist at the German Research Centre for Geosciences in Potsdam who wasn't involved in the Lorca study.

Bohnhoff said smaller manmade quakes can also occur when liquid is pumped into the ground.

A pioneering geothermal power project in the Swiss city of Basel was abandoned in 2009 after it caused a series of earthquakes. Nobody was injured, but the tremors caused by injecting cold water into hot rocks to produce steam resulted in millions of Swiss francs (dollars) damage to buildings.

Earlier this year, a report by the National Research Council in the United States found the controversial practice of hydraulic fracturing to extract natural gas was not a huge source man-made earthquakes. However, the related practice of shooting large amounts of wastewater from "fracking" or other drilling activities into deep underground storage wells has been linked with some small earthquakes.



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Singer Andy Williams remembered at tribute

DAVID A. LIEB Associated Press

BRANSON, Missouri (AP)
— Entertainer Andy Williams
was remembered Sunday
for a smooth voice that
could soothe the soul, an
inviting smile and a warmth
that became synonymous
with Christmas as celebrities and fans alike gathered for a memorial tribute
at his Moon River Theatre in

the southwest Missouri town

he adopted as his home. Williams, who died last month at the age of 84 after a battle with cancer, was serenaded in absentia by a series of musical artists who got their start with him decades ago or had performed with him over the years — the Lennon Sisters, Osmond Brothers and Gatlin Brothers, among them. Comedian Bob Newhart choked up with emotion as he joked of his friendship with Williams.

Others sent tributes by vid-

eo, including comedian Bill Cosby and Ethel Kennedy, who recalled swooning as she once danced with Williams — a family friend who sang at the memorial for her husband, Robert F. Kennedy, after his assassination in 1968. Williams himself also appeared on the video screen as clips recalling his musical albums, TV variety show and Christmas specials were played.

More than 1,000 people attended the tribute hosted by entertainer Peter Marshall that started as an invitation-only event, but was opened to fans as word spread through Branson. Williams had three platinum and 18 gold records, and five Grammy award nominations during a career that began at age 8 — when he performed with his older brothers Dick, Bob and Don — and continued nearly until his death as he

performed at his Branson

theater named for his signature song, "Moon River." "For his fans, his music is the tapestry of our lives it can soothe life's difficult moments

help to celebrate the glorious ones," said Anthony Gigliotti, who spoke at the memorial service as a representative of Williams' fan club.

Williams became a big star in 1956, the same year as Elvis Presley, with the swing sona "Canadian Sunset." He hosted "The Andy Williams Show" through the 1960s into 1971, and the TV variety show won three Emmys. His annual Christmas specials, featuring Williams dressed in colorful sweaters singing favorites such as "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year," continued long after his TV show ended and were renewed with live performances after Williams opened his Branson theater in 1992.



From left, Jay Osmond, Merrill Osmond, and Jimmy Osmond sing at Andy Williams' memorial service at the Moon River Theater, in Branson, Mo., Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012. Williams, known for singing "Moon River" and his Christmas television specials, passed away Sept. 25.

Associated Press

"Christmas is never going to be the same to me," Newhart said Sunday, his voice breaking up with emotion. A cross section of people who knew Williams was seated out of the spotlight in the theater that he built. Some knew him in passing from his friendly smile and wave that graced Branson, and others in a more personal way, including the

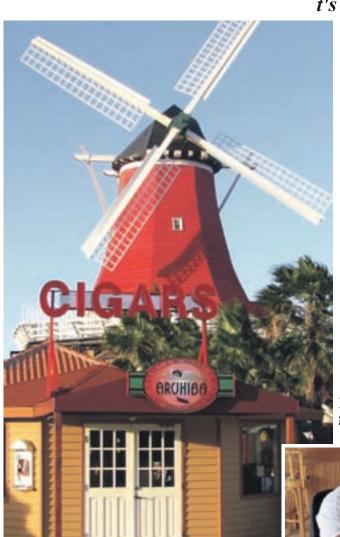
man who regularly golfed with Williams or the woman who once lived next door to him.

Former neighbor Jude Rhodes recalled Williams holding her sick dog and singing to her for a birthday.

"I could go on for days and days what a wonderful man he was — a sweet lovely man," Rhodes said.

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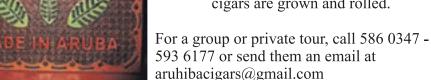
ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a



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Box-office activity slows for 'Paranormal,' Perry

DAVID GERMAIN AP Movie Writer

Scary movie fans are still into "Paranormal Activity," though the horror franchise looks as though it's starting to run out of steam at the box office.

Paramount's "Paranormal Activity 4" debuted at No. 1 with \$30.2 million, a big drop from the \$40 million and \$50 million opening weekends of the last two installments, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Perpetual hit maker Tyler Perry failed to find an audience for his new persona as ace crime solver. SummitEntertainment's Cross," starring Perry as author James Patterson's brilliant criminal profiler, was a dud, opening at No. 5 with \$11.8 million. Perry has written, directed and starred in a string of hits featuring his sassy grandma Madea, which mostly have had opening weekends two and three times bigger than that of "Alex Cross." Fans didn't buy into Perry as Cross as the police detective goes up against a diabolical serial killer.

"He's become so identified and so successful with the Madea franchise that when he steps outside of that, it doesn't necessarily follow that the audience is going along with him," said Paul Dergarabedian, an analyst for box-office tracker Hollywood.com. "It's fun for him to stretch out a little



This film image released by Paramount Pictures shows Kathryn Newton in a scene from "Paranormal Activity 4."

Associated Press

bit, but it didn't really pay

Ben Affleck's Iran hostage tale "Argo" held up well in its second weekend, remaining at No. 2 with \$16.6 million, dropping just 15 percent from its debut. Big studio releases often drop 50 percent or more in subsequent weekends, but "Argo" has proven a hit with critics and audiences alike, earning Academy Awards buzz and strong word of mouth that should give it a long run at theaters. Affleck, who also directed "Argo," plays a CIA specialist who concocts a wild plan to rescue six Americans hiding in Tehran after the 1979 takeover of the U.S. embassy there.

Released by Warner Bros., "Argo" raised its domestic total to \$43.2 million.

Liam Neeson's action sequel "Taken 2," which had been No. 1 the previous two weekends, slipped to fourth-place with \$13.4 million, lifting the 20th Century Fox release's domestic haul to \$106 million.

Adam Sandler's animated hit "Hotel Transylvania," from Sony Pictures, also held up well at No. 3 with \$13.5 million, pushing its domestic earnings to \$119 million. While domestic revenues were way down for the fourth "Paranormal Activity" flick, the franchise remains a big moneymaker for distributor Paramount. "Paranormal Activity 4" was

produced on a tiny budget of \$5 million, continuing the franchise's trend of turning minimal investments into tidy profits.

"For us, the focus is always, what are these movies made for and how profitable are they? Within Paramount, it's a colossal success," said Don Harris, the studio's head of distribution. "A \$5 million movie that has an opening weekend of over \$30 million, it's really kind of irrelevant what No. 2 or No. 3 did. The movies really stand on their own."

Overseas, "Paranormal Activity 4" had a good start with \$26.5 million in 33 countries, giving it a worldwide total of \$56.7 million.

In limited release, Fox Searchlight's acclaimed drama "The Sessions" did solid business, opening with \$121,005 in four theaters in New York City and Los Angeles, for a healthy average of \$30,251 a cinema. By comparison, "Paranormal Activity 4" averaged \$8,851 in 3,412 theaters.

"The Sessions" stars John Hawkes and Helen Hunt in the true-life story of a man paralyzed by polio and stuck in an iron lung most of his life, who hires a sexual surrogate so he can lose his virginity. The film expands to more cities over the next month.

While "Paranormal Activity 4" fell short of the franchise's third installment, which opened over the same weekend last year, overall Hollywood revenues continued to rise after a late-summer slump.

Strong holdovers such as "Argo," ''Hotel Transylvania" and "Taken 2" made the difference, with domestic business totaling \$131 million, up 8 percent from the same weekend a year ago, according to Hollywood.com. Revenues were up for the fourth-straight weekend.

"Last year, the box office was so top-heavy with 'Paranormal Activity 3,' and the rest of the films really underperformed," Dergarabedian said. "This year, we have a much more balanced lineup."



This Oct. 9, 2012 photo released by Starpix shows Trudie Styler, left, and Sting at the premiere of the Warner Bros. film "Argo," in New York. The film opens in theaters on Friday.

Associated Press

Sting moves venue of Philippine concert

MANILA, Philippines (AP)
— Sting has moved the location of his "Back to Bass Tour" concert in the Philippines following a petition by environmentalists who said the original venue is owned by a conglomerate that plans to uproot 182 trees for a parking lot and mall expansion in a northern mountain city.

The SM Mall of Asia Arena said on Saturday that changing the site of the Dec. 9 concert was "the decision of the artist himself." "Understandably, the known environment advocate artist was left with no choice in spite of the SM representatives' appeal," it said in a statement.

SM Prime Holdings, which operates SM malls and the arena on Manila Bay, is owned by the Philippines' richest man, mall mogul Henry Sy.

Environmentalists said in their petition that as a champion of the environment, "Sting can't be saving rainforests and enabling SM to rape the environment at the same time!" Sting and his wife Trudie Styler established The Rainforest Foundation in 1989 to protect tropical rainforests and the people who live there.

Arena business manager Arnel Gonzales told The Associated Press that the venue became "collateral damage" in the environmentalists' campaign.

From The New York Times

31 Monday, October 22, 2012

Why Syracuse Isn't Penn State



JOE NOCERA
© 2012 New York Times

On Nov. 17, 2011, less than two weeks after a grand jury indicted Jerry Sandusky, thus igniting the Penn State sexual abuse scandal, ESPN broke the news that a second big-time college assistant coach had been accused of abusing young boys. His name was Bernie Fine, and he was the longtime top assistant to Jim Boeheim, Syracuse University's legendary basketball coach.

Like Sandusky, Fine had deep roots in the community. Like Sandusky, he spent plenty of time around young boys; for instance, he coached every summer at Syracuse's basketball camp. Fine's two accusers were stepbrothers who had been Syracuse ball boys during their teens. One of them, Bobby Davis, 40, said Fine had abused him from the seventh grade until he was 27. Within 10 days of the ESPN article, Fine had been fired by the university. In the meantime, two more accusers came forward. It also emerged that The Syracuse Post-Standard had investigated Davis' charges in 2003 but had not written an article. The university had learned of the charges in 2005; it kept the information to itself. Boeheim, for his part, had issued a vehement defense of his assistant -"It's a bunch of a thousand lies," he told ESPN – but backpedaled after Fine was fired.

In the heat of the moment, it was easy enough to assume that what had happened at Penn State had also happened at Syracuse: that the university - and the larger community, which lived and breathed Syracuse basketball - had entered into a conspiracy of silence. When I wrote a column about Fine last vear, I essentially accused The Post-Standard and the school of covering up the allegations. It's now 11 months later. Sandusky is behind bars, as he should be. And Bernie Fine? Although a grand jury is still investigating, it is unlikely that charges will ever be brought. Two of Fine's accusers have recanted. One of them admitted that Davis had put him up to it. Serious questions have also been raised about a third accuser, Mike Lang, Davis' stepbrother, who had always denied that he had been abused by Fine – until the Sandusky story broke.

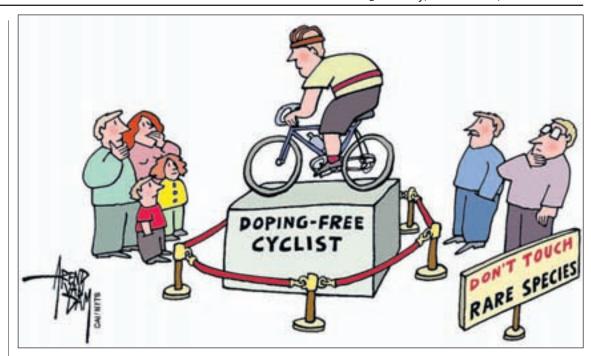
The refusal of The Post-Standard to publish an article about Davis' allegations - charges it could never corroborate - now looks like responsible journalism rather than a dereliction of duty. The university hired the law firm of Paul Weiss to review its actions in 2005. The firm concluded that while the university had made mistakes, it had investigated Davis' allegations diligently and had come to the same conclusion as the newspaper: There was simply no proof. With the passage of time, ESPN is the one that appears to have acted irresponsibly (although the network disagrees with this assessment) - along with the rest of us who piled on.

In a recent New Yorker article, Malcolm Gladwell described the dynamics that allowed Sandusky to get away with it for so long. "A pedophile," he wrote, "is someone adept not just at preying on children but at confusing, deceiving and charming the adults responsible for those children."

That is one reason, he concluded, that adults can be reluctant to go to the police; they have a hard time believing that their charming friend could be a child molester. As Gladwell put it to me in an email, "These guys are so slippery – and the nature of the evidence so subjective that it is much harder than people realize to make a definitive diagnosis." But there is another reason as well. What if they're wrong? What if it turns out that the accuser is lying? What happens then? In the public mind, pedophilia is such a heinous crime that it has become almost impossible to recover from a false accusation. And people realize that.

"It is the enormity of the crime," says Gladwell, that weighs on people. They want to be sure, but it's hard to be sure.

In Bernie Fine's case, the accusation alone cost him his job and his reputation. The chances of his ever coaching again at the college level are close to nil. The charges will cling to him for the rest of his life. This week, we saw the release of thousands of pages of documents detailing 20 years of sexual abuse in the Boy Scouts, from the mid-1960s to the mid-1980s. They document what The Times called "a corrosive culture of secrecy.' that allowed pedophilia to exist within its ranks with virtually no consequences. They are a painful reminder of the many decades our culture refused to confront child abusers squarely. Today we're all sensitized to the damage that child sexual abuse can do. That is all to the good. But so long as an accusation alone can be ruinous, there will always be some reluctance to report a suspected child molester. What the Bernie Fine case really shows is not how far we've come but how much further we have to go.



The Least Popular Campaign Subject



GAIL COLLINS © 2012 New York Times

Let's give a cheer for Nina Gonzalez, the woman who asked Mitt Romney and Barack Obama about gun control at the presidential debate.

People, have you noticed how regularly this topic fails to come up? We have been having this campaign since the dawn of the ice age. Why wasn't there a gun control moment before now?

True, the candidates were asked about it after the horrific blood baths last summer in Colorado and Wisconsin. But there have been 43 American mass shootings in the last year. Wouldn't you think that would qualify guns for a more regular mention?

"I felt very empowered," said Gonzalez, a 57-year-old mental health practitioner from Long Island. We were talking on the phone a few days after the debate. She had been fielding calls from strangers who were eager to give her their opinion about guns, and she still couldn't quite understand why the candidates were less enthusiastic. "What's the problem?" she asked.

Democrats running for national office are terrified of the whole subject. Party lore has it that passing the assault weapons ban in 1994 cost them control of Congress and Al Gore's election. (There is ample evidence that this isn't true, but that's what makes it lore.)

So Obama, a vocal gun control supporter in his Chicago days, is now a gun control nonmentioner. And, when it comes to legislation in Congress, a nonhelper. Republicans are usually eager to bring up gun control, the better to denounce it. But Mitt Romney has – surprise! – a complicated history of policy molt on the issue. He was once on the same page as Ted Kennedy, and then the page turned.

For purposes of running for president, Romney is against new gun laws. And he would rather not have any discussions that lead to a mention of his premolt state. Or the fact that he once unsuccessfully attempted to woo rural voters by recounting his skill as a hunter of "small varmints."

Into all this stepped Gonzalez, who was haunted by the Colorado theater shooting in July that killed 12 people. The gunman carried a 100-bullet assault rifle. The ban on assault weapons, which allow you to fire as fast as you can keep pulling the trigger, expired in 2004. Congress has been afraid to renew it because, you know, there's the lore

"What has your administration done or planned to do to limit the availability of assault weapons?" Gonzalez asked Obama. "You know, we're a nation that

"You know, we're a nation that believes in the Second Amendment," Obama began. "And I believe in the Second Amendment. You know, we've got a long tradition of hunting. ..."

When in doubt, say something nice about hunters.

The president signaled that he favors renewing the ban by saying that weapons designed for soldiers at war "do not belong on our streets." Then he swerved away to the importance of better law enforcement, good schools and faith groups that work with inner-city children.

That was pretty much it for the guns, except that Obama did call for getting "automatic weapons that kill folks in amazing numbers out of the hands of criminals and the mentally ill."

Actually, automatic weapons, like machine guns, are already heavily regulated. Although, in a different world, we would be discussing why they're in the country at all.

Mitt Romney wasted only 42 words on assault weapons before veering off into the importance of good schools. When it comes to gun control, both presidential candidates are strongly in favor of quality education. Romney followed up with a long disquisition on the virtues of two-parent families. ("But, gosh, to tell our kids that before they have babies, they ought to think about getting married to someone – that's a great idea. ...")

It was about here that he lost Nina Gonzalez. "Single mothers have enough problems. Leave them alone," she said. "Why are we even talking about that? That's not the issue."

Romney then lurched into an attack on "Fast and Furious," a much-criticized Justice Department program involving Mexican drug lords. The moderator, Candy Crowley, was forced to round him up and send him back toward the United States. Crowley noted that Romney had signed a ban on assault weapons when he was governor of Massachusetts. "Why is it that you've changed your mind?" she asked.

This was an excellent question, and Romney's answer was basically that in Massachusetts nobody was against it. I think that, by now, we have plenty of reassurance that whenever something universally popular comes up, Mitt Romney will be there with his signing pen.

The president then interrupted urgently for what turned out to be a comparison of his and Romney's positions on hiring teachers.

Gonzalez still thought Obama did better. (She's really irked about the single mothers.) But she says she's maintaining her undecided status, just in case Romney comes up with a credible jobs-creation strategy in the next few weeks.

Monday, October 22, 2012 FEATURE

-Aruba-TODAY

Just the thing for those who have it all



The Eurocopter Mercedes-Benz EC-145, which costs about \$8.2 million at eurocopterusa.com. For the ultra-wealthy, luxe pleasures and products can have outsized effects.

(Handout via The New York Times)

STEPHANIE CLIFFORD © 2012 New York Times

So you've earned it. Now, how to spend it? We have a few ideas. These products may be in the fantasy realm. But, as the interior designer Miles Redd says, sometimes luxe pleasures and products can have outsized effects. "When great wealth is attached to creativity, what it can render can be extraordinary," said Redd, the author of "The Big Book of Chic." Unusual, for sure.

A CUSTOM SCENT

A handful of famous perfumeries are creating customized perfumes.

"This is something that used to be reserved for royalty and has only recently become a little more democratic, quote unquote," said Polly Blitzer, founder of the Beauty Blitz website. "It's almost like going to Vivaldi or Beethoven back in the day and asking them to create a custom concerto for you."

Guerlain's process starts with a two-hour consultation with the company's director of fragrance, focusing on happy memories and favorite smells. A fragrance is developed and, after approving a sample, the buyer receives a five-

year supply of the perfume in a Baccarat bottle. The buyer chooses a name for the perfume, "and it goes eration of photojournalists: Mary Ellen Mark, Alberto Korda, Jim Marshall. But as digital cameras were



Custom perfume from Guerlain, which starts at\$56,800 and up. For the ultra-wealthy, luxe pleasures and products can have outsized effects.

(Handout via The New York Times)

in the legendary scent book for Guerlain, recorded for eternity," Blitzer said. Krigler, a New York-based perfumery, offers a similar service. Allot extra time for this purchase; the process can take up to a year.

Bespoke fragrances, \$15,000 and up, hauteperfumery (AT) krigler.com; \$56,800 and up, Guerlain, 212-872-2734.

A CLASSIC CAMERA

The Leica set the professional standard for a gen-

introduced, Leica lost customers and headed toward bankruptcy. Now, the company is opening luxury shops and enjoying a renaissance, as it has combined digital technology with old-fashioned, understated looks. (Witness the Hollywood types with Leicas strung around their necks: Seal, Brad Pitt, Dakota Fanning.) Hermes, the French design house, has a new limited-edition Leica that is covered in leather. (Hermes' roots are as a briand there is "air-conditioning, large leather seats, music and an intercom system that allows us to chat freely amongst ourselves."

dle and harness maker).

"It has the classic Hermes

tan leather on it," said

Jonathan Geller, president

and editor in chief of the

consumer electronics site

BGR.com, and '`it's proba-

bly the nicest camera that

Leica M9-P Edition Hermes,

\$25,000 to \$50,000, leica.

ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT

Geoffrey Kent spends a

lot of time traveling - he is

the founder, chairman and

chief executive of the trav-

el company Abercrombie

& Kent. His favorite way to

get around is in a Eurocop-

ter helicopter. (He has late-

ly been flying around the

islands off Panama's west

Kent said the helicopters

first grabbed his attention

when the company tried

them out in Kenya. Their

quietness allows for good

wildlife viewing, he said,

coast in one).

you could ever buy.

com

Eurocopter Mercedes-Benz EC-145, about \$8.2 million, eurocopterusa.com. Pilot additional and varies by location; Eurocopter USA can recommend a pilot.

CHICKEN HOUSING

Yes, chicken coops sound a bit down-market. But reconsider: This is a chicken coop from the Neiman Marcus Christmas Book. The coop – er, "heritage hen mini farm" – is modeled after Petit Trianon, Marie Antoinette's palace at Versailles.

It features "a nesting area, a living room for nighttime roosting, a broody room, a library filled with chicken and gardening books for visitors of the human kind, and, of course, an elegant chandelier," the Christmas Book says. The price includes three to 10 heritage hens, custom raised beds for growing vegetables or herbs and a \$3,000 donation to a nonprofit that works on heritage breed protection.

Heritage hen mini farm, \$100,000, neimanmarcus. com/FantasyHenFarm.

COZY COVERINGS

Luxury and utility don't always go hand in hand, but one of the men's clothing standouts for the fall season can go from inside to outside, and from early fall to midwinter: the sweater coat.

"It's a hybrid sweater-jacket, with toggles, hoods," said Eric Jennings, the men's fashion director of Saks Fifth Avenue. "Right now men love anything multifunctional – they love getting bang for their buck."

Jennings says his particular allegiance is to Bark's chunky knits, "probably the most mimicked and knocked-off sweater coat in the market."

Bark sweater coats, \$695-\$750, saksfifthavenue.com.

A SWINGER'S PARADISE

You know when you want to play Pebble Beach, but don't have time to fly to California? Enter the High Definition Golf Simulator.

"It's a full wraparound screen, high-res graphics, crazy championship courses, and ball and club tracking," Geller of BGR. com said.

The simulator also reproduces the sand traps, trees and hazards on the courses, which range from Kiawah Island, S.C., to Banff Springs in Alberta, Canada.